

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTH.

On September 16th, at No. 4, Yates Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. O. STRUCKMEYER, a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 27th instant, before H.B.M.'s Consul-General, Yokohama, FREDERICK CHARLES MASON HURLEY, of Hongkong, to ANNIE daughter of Mr. ARTHUR PRACOCK, Clapham Park, London.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of the 3rd ultimo arrived on the 29th ultimo.

The Siberian Mail of the 10th and 11th ultimo arrived on the 1st inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

We learn that the damage done at Foochow by the recent typhoon is estimated at about two million dollars.

Cholera seems to be very prevalent in Manchuria and in Korea. Seoul, Newchwang and Antung appear to have a great number of cases.

M. Alexandre Laurence de Lalande, who has held consular appointments in Shanghai, Hongkong and Yokohama, has been appointed French Consul-General in London.

The Japanese Army Department has appointed a Preparation Committee to make arrangements for a fitting reception being given to Field Marshal Lord Kitchener, who is expected to arrive at Tokyo on 2nd November via China.

The Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary has conferred upon Sir Robert Bredon, Acting Inspector-General of Customs, the Grand Cross of the Order of Francis Joseph, the most coveted Austro-Hungarian decoration.

Japan papers contain accounts of the alleged embezzlement of a sum of 4,000 yen from the Kobe office of the Messageries Maritimes by a young Cantonese named Teng Tzu-Ping, who was employed in the comprador's department. The accused was arrested at Nagasaki and brought back to Kobe.

A very pretty wedding was solemnized on September 18 at Tientsin, the contracting parties being Mr. H. W. Fortesquieu, who for a considerable time occupied an important position in the local branch of the Chartered Bank, and Miss Alice Muriel St. Clare Heaps, daughter of the late Rev. G. W. Heaps, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary's, Farndale, Yorkshire.

A telegram received in Shanghai through official sources says that Congress has appropriated \$100,000 for China trade and the U. S. State Department is organizing a great Far Eastern Bureau, among the members of which will be Mr. Williams (Consul-General at Tientsin), Mr. Heintzleman (Vice-Consul-General, Shanghai), and Mr. Miller (Secretary of Legation at Tokio).

Mr. S. Okuyama, of Amoy, has resigned his seat on the Kulungsu Municipal Council owing to his departure from the port. The Council has accepted the resignation with regret, and the Secretary was instructed to convey to Mr. Okuyama the Council's thanks for his services whilst a member. The Council further unanimously decided to invite Mr. K. Tsudzurabara, of the Taiwan Bank, to fill the vacancy.

With reference to the recent death from plague of a Siamese Prince at Kobe, we learn that the unfortunate Prince, accompanied by nine other sons of influential Siamese, came to Japan in 1907 to prosecute his studies on mechanical engineering, and entered the Kawasaki Shipbuilding Yard as an ordinary workman. Upon receipt of the news of his demise the Siamese Minister in Tokyo at once left Shimabashi for Kobe. The funeral service was to be performed at the Shofuku-ji temple, Kobe, at which Governor Hattori of Kobe and other personages were to be present. The remains will subsequently be taken to Bangkok for interment. The deceased, who was the son of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, was only nineteen years of age.

A very important arrest was made in the French Concession at Shanghai last Tuesday afternoon. Information had been conveyed to the police that aboard the C. M. steamer Kwanglee a Chinese accountant was fleeing from Hongkong to escape charges of embezzlement, and on the arrival of the vessel the officers went on board her and were successful in apprehending the man. He is said to have been the accountant in a native medicine shop in Hongkong, and the police were informed that allegations were made against him of having embezzled between sixty and seventy thousand taels. It is believed that in his possession were found papers bearing the face value of Tls. 120 0. He is meantime in custody pending instructions from Hongkong.

It will be a matter of great interest to the local cricketing fraternity in particular, and to the community of Singapore in general, says the *Straits Times*, to learn that five of the Australian cricket eleven will return to their homes via Singapore, towards the end of next month, and that they will take part in matches here. Negotiations have been proceeding for some considerable time. The matter of a "gate" had been mentioned in the course of correspondence, but a "gate" in Singapore is out of the question, and the invitation to visit Singapore was therefore put to the team in such a form that those who might avail themselves of it would be assured of a hospitable reception and an all-round good time, in return for the privilege of seeing the visitors at the wicket. In response to this, a cable has been received stating definitely that five of the Colonial team will come on to Singapore from Colomb. The members of the team who are coming are Messrs. N. A. Noble, W. W. Armstrong, A. Cotter, A. J. Hopkins and F. Laver.

Commenting on Mr. Asquith's statement concerning the creation of a Pacific Fleet, which we reproduced in our columns yesterday, the *Naval and Military Record* observes:—"On the strict reading of the short statement made by Mr. Asquith, it looks as though there will be a further reduction of the units in the China Sea as a result of this agreement. At present we maintain in these waters the four armoured cruisers *Bedford*, *Kent*, *King Alfred*, and *Monmouth*, with the two protected cruisers *Flora* and *Astræa*, half-a-dozen sloops and gunboats, and five destroyers. Presumably the six larger ships now on the station will be withdrawn and utilized as additions to the fleet in European waters, and the existing destroyers will be replaced by half-a-dozen craft of the River type, of which some, at least, will be detailed for duty off the Australian coast with the submarines. It is hardly likely that the sixteen sloops and gunboats will be recalled, as successive Commanders-in-Chief on the China station have consistently held that they are essential to the work of the squadron.

A Roman Catholic missionary has been killed by Hunghutzes in Manchuria. It was on the 27th ult. that the Rev. Pere Saffroy, of Tieling, quitted that place for Pah Mien Chang. The first part of the journey he went by rail, and the rest was undertaken by road in a cart. The Father was, it appears, in Chinese garb, and as he went in his cart it chanced he was followed by a number of Chinese soldiers. This gave him the appearance, to those at a distance, of a Chinese mandarin. It is assumed, at anyrate, that this is the impression that was conveyed to some Hunghutze who were in hiding in the kaoliang along the roadside. Taking the occupant of the cart to be a Chinese official, they fired at and wounded the Rev. Father Saffroy in the head. This occurred on the road to Pah Mien Chang. The victim was taken home again by the driver of the cart and by the Rev. Pere Maillard, of Pah Mien Chang, who had been advised of the occurrence by the Chinese soldiers. The wound was treated on the spot, but the injured man remained unconscious. The injury to the brain had produced paralysis. It was then resolved to send him to Tientsin, and there, when he was placed under the care of Dr. Robin and Dr. L'homme at the French Hospital, in spite of all they could do, the patient was past hope of recovery.

THE KOWLOON RAILWAY.

(Daily Press, September 27th)

Nearly every mail from England recently has brought news of questions asked in the House of Commons regarding the British section of the Kowloon-Canton railway, the interrogator being Mr. GINNELL, the Nationalist member for West Meath. We are not aware that Mr. GINNELL has any personal interests in Hongkong, and, knowing absolutely nothing of the hon. member's career, we are unable to explain the obviously very close attention which he has been paying to the undertaking. Irish Nationalist members of Parliament, as a rule, manifest so little interest in anything that concerns the British overseas dominions that Mr. GINNELL's interest in the politico-economic questions associated with railway enterprises in China, and in the Kowloon railway in particular, is all the more astonishing. We have previously said that there has been nothing strikingly new to Hongkong readers either in the questions put in Parliament or the replies made to them by the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, regarding the line in which this Colony is specially interested. The questions have been those which we have ventilated ourselves, and the replies have been a repetition of statements made in the local Legislature by H. E. the GOVERNOR. The latest questions on the subject, however, form an exception to this rule, and require a modification of our statement as to their staleness. We have received by the Siberian mail an extract from the "Times" giving the replies of the Under Secretary of State to two further questions put by Mr. GINNELL at the end of August, and these contain statements which certainly will strike our readers as being not only new, but manifestly absurd. Mr. GINNELL asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he would give a brief abstract of the figures of the Chief Resident Engineer of the Kowloon Railway "showing how it was alleged that this railway could ever pay working expenses, interest, and repay the principal spent on its construction, even as an extension of the Canton Railway, in competition with the shorter navigable river, which had cost nothing; and whether he had any corroboration of those figures from any competent person not dependent on the Crown Agents." We were not aware until we saw this that the Chief Resident Engineer had prepared any such figures; we cannot, moreover, see how it is possible for any man to estimate the profits of a railway yet uncompleted—especially such a line as the British section of the Kowloon-Canton railway; nor can we recognise it as being within the province of the Chief Resident Engineer to attempt such a fatuous and impossible task. But COLONEL SEELY, greatly to our astonishment, replied that he understood the Chief Resident Engineer to be "now preparing a revised estimate of profits, and in the circumstances it would be useless to give an abstract of the figures supplied some years ago." Will some member of the Legislative Council kindly ask for this most interesting estimate, which was prepared "some years ago," to be laid upon the table for public information, together with the "revised estimate of profits which the Colonial Office understands the Chief Resident Engineer has been recently preparing? These documents would certainly be no less interesting to the community of Hongkong than to the member of Parliament representing the constituency of West Meath. Railway profits! Alas! it must be said that either the Under Secretary of State is very ill informed on

the subject, or he is greatly lacking in a sense of humour. No member of the Colonial Legislature, we are sure, so lacks the grace of humour as to make the application to the Government we have facetiously suggested. How is it possible for such estimates to have been prepared by the Chief Resident Engineer or anybody else? It might have been reasonable to expect that the line would soon pay its way if its cost—including all provision for sidings, workshops, wharves, &c. suitable to the seaport terminus of a great trunk railway—had not exceeded the original estimate of half a million pounds sterling; but he would be a very sanguine man, indeed, who would venture to calculate on profits being made on twenty-two miles of railway costing, with all the terminal appurtenances, not less than a million pounds sterling. The only prediction that can be made with any sort of assurance whatever is that there will be no direct profit on such a costly line for some years to come. All we can hope for in the next decade is that the indirect benefits of the railway will be so substantial that the annual demands made on the Colonial Treasury for railway account will be offset to a considerable extent by the increased prosperity of the Colony to be anticipated from the opening up of the interior of the vast Empire of China.

LORD KITCHENER.

(Daily Press, September 28th.)

The welcome which was officially extended to LORD KITCHENER on his arrival in the Colony yesterday was one in which the whole of the British population of the Colony would have delighted to participate, for it is unnecessary to say that here, as in every other part of HIS MAJESTY'S dominions, there is nothing but sincere admiration for his splendid achievements as a soldier on the field of battle and his conspicuous abilities as a statesman in the Council Chamber. On vacating the Chief Command in India, where he has rendered services to the Crown which cannot be too highly appraised, LORD KITCHENER has in conformity with the wishes of HIS MAJESTY'S Government, accepted the position of High Commissioner and Field Marshal, commanding in the Mediterranean. At the same time he is promoted by HIS MAJESTY to the rank of Field Marshal, at the age of fifty-nine. LORD KITCHENER entered the Royal Engineers in 1871, but not until twelve years after he joined the Army did he receive his company and then distinction followed quickly. In two years, for services in Egypt with which his name will ever be associated, he was promoted successively major and lieutenant-colonel, and three years later, in 1888, he was given full rank. He became Sirdar of Egypt in 1890, and eight years later, after he had broken the Khalifa's power at Omdurman, was raised to the Peerage and granted £30,000 with thanks of Parliament. His success in South Africa and as an administrator in India are within public recollection. LORD KITCHENER is now proceeding to Japan to represent the King and British Army at the grand manoeuvres in November, but in the meantime HIS LORDSHIP will make a tour in North China, visiting especially the scenes of the titanic struggle between Russia and Japan in the province of Manchuria. After the manoeuvres in Japan, LORD KITCHENER, at the request of the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, will visit the Commonwealth and the Dominion to inspect their troops, and to advise as to the best way of giving effect to certain proposals for the development of their military forces

which have been discussed at the Imperial Conference in London. Afterwards he will return home to take up his new command.

Though this new appointment has not been without its eulogists in the Home Press, it is not too much to say that it has astonished and mystified the British public, for the post which was created two years ago in favour of the DUKE OF CONNAUGHT has been regarded as a sinecure, and this view has quite recently been strengthened by the statements in the papers representing that the DUKE had resigned the appointment for that very reason, viz. that he had nothing to do. But we cannot conceive that this is to be the uncongenial lot of our ablest soldier. Military writers, however, seem completely at a loss to explain the meaning of the appointment; and the best shot the "Times" military correspondent has been able to make is that "he will be in a specially favourable position to organise, and, if need be, to direct, the British forces which exist in, or might gravitate to, the Middle Sea. It is in the ideas unfolded in the Defence Conference in this sense that one must seek the inner meaning of the appointment." Just so. But what are these ideas? This veiled statement suggests that some extensive plans in connection with the Mediterranean are being hatched; if so, it means a complete reversal of recent policy, which has been one of reducing both the naval and military forces there, and therefore the conjecture must be taken with some reserve. Nothing will probably transpire with regard to the intentions of the Government until LORD KITCHENER takes up the appointment, but it is recognised by all writers that if some important scheme of organisation is not already intended, LORD KITCHENER will speedily create one, for not even the baton of a Field Marshal coupled with a seat on the Defence Committee would reconcile LORD KITCHENER to the occupation of a sinecure. It has been aptly remarked that Malta, five days' distance by land and eight by water, does not seem to be ideal headquarters for an officer who is to take an active and useful part in the higher councils of the Government as a member of the Defence Committee, and to have, as President of the Selection Board, a chief voice in army promotion. That, however, is only an additional reason for thinking that the appointment of High Commissioner of the Mediterranean is not to be for LORD KITCHENER the sinecure that H. R. H. the DUKE of CONNAUGHT has found it to be in the past two years.

BRITISH POSTAL AGENCIES IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, September 29th.)

Until the Government of Hongkong a couple of years ago threatened to close the British postal agency at Tientsin few people were aware that the British postal agencies at the various Treaty ports of China were conducted at the cost of the Hongkong taxpayers. We observe that the Colonial Secretary has recently written to the Municipal Council at Shanghai a letter in which it is mentioned that H. E. the GOVERNOR has for some time past had under consideration the annual loss incurred by the Revenues of this Colony by the conduct of the postal agencies at various Treaty ports in China and the letter adds: HIS EXCELLENCY is of opinion that this service is primarily one affecting Imperial interests, and in particular the interests of the treaty ports concerned, and he lately wrote to His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies informing him that he could no longer undertake

to conduct these agencies at the cost of the Hongkong taxpayers, the more so that additional burdens have lately been incurred owing to railway construction and restriction of opium." It is further mentioned in the letter that the Secretary of State has been in communication with the Treasury, and a telegram has been received by His EXCELLENCY informing him that His Majesty's Government will guarantee the Colony of Hongkong against half of the net loss incurred on the collective maintenance on present lines of the Treaty Port agencies, and suggesting that the communities at those agencies should be required to contribute towards the remaining loss, as a provisional arrangement for one year. The loss for 1910 is estimated by the Postmaster-General at \$27,250, and His EXCELLENCY intimated to the Municipal Council that the Government of Hongkong would continue to conduct the British Post Office in Shanghai during 1910 provide the Council would guarantee to refund to the Government of Hongkong one quarter of the total loss on the agency. The Council has replied regretting that it cannot authorise payment on behalf of so cosmopolitan a community of a contribution towards the cost of maintenance of the British Post Office, since other national offices would be entitled to similar treatment. There are in Shanghai branch post-offices under American, French, German, Japanese and Russian management, as well as the Imperial Chinese Post Office, and in the Council's opinion the support of any of these, or the British Post Office, cannot fittingly be made a charge upon municipal funds. Yet not only is the Post Office in Hongkong made a charge upon the local revenues, but we have out of our local revenues to maintain British postal agencies at some half-a-dozen Treaty Ports in China, hardly one of which, we believe, pays its way. We may expect to hear something further regarding this matter when the Estimates for 1910 are introduced into the Council next month. It would be interesting to know, for instance, whether in this estimated loss of \$27,250, the military contribution of 20% of the revenue has been reckoned. Last year the question as to whether the receipts from postal agencies conducted by this Colony in China should be liable to military contribution was under reference to the Secretary of State, but no announcement has yet been made of the result of that reference. It is obviously unfair that the taxpayers of Hongkong should be penalised for discharging an Imperial duty by having to pay a military contribution of 20 per cent. on a postal revenue not adequate to cover the cost of maintaining the service.

Times have changed very much since these postal agencies were established. They were established when the only route from China to Europe was via Hongkong. At that time, as a Shanghai contemporary points out, all other nationalities sent their mails by British Post Office, and the rates were much higher than they are now. In those days, no doubt, there was a profit on the postal agency at Shanghai. But today the mails of Shanghai go to Europe by seven different post offices, and by three or four different routes, so that the British post office has come to be used almost exclusively by British subjects. The question of whether the British post-office at Shanghai shall be closed or not is not merely a local but an Imperial question, and so long as other Governments maintain national post offices in the Treaty Ports it is imperative that the British offices shall be maintained too. The Municip-

ality of Tientsin and the Imperial Treasury have between them met the deficit on the British postal agency at that port for the past two or three years. The Shanghai Municipality is not constituted in the same way, and therefore the only way in which a contribution towards the loss could be obtained from Shanghai would be from the funds of some private British Association, such as the China Association (to whom the Municipality has referred the letter from the Government of Hongkong). The *Shanghai Mercury* suggests that one of the means of reducing the deficit would be to offer greater facilities to the public in the matter of mails via Shanghai, and concludes, that the only way out of the impasse is the increase of facilities and the taking over of the service by the Home Government. For the present, we fear not much is to be hoped for in the way of increased facilities unless the cost of transit is reduced. We believe that the increased cost of transit since mails have been sent via Siberia has been responsible to some extent for the Colony's loss on postal revenue. Transit payments, last year, for instance, showed an increase of \$20,000, and we imagine the plea of the Government would be that until the mail subsidy is still further reduced increased facilities are not possible owing to the heavy transit charges. It is manifestly the duty of the Imperial Government, and not of the Government of this Colony, to maintain the Treaty Port agencies, and we trust that the British community of Shanghai will be able to induce the Imperial Government to accept the full responsibility.

THE JAPANESE EMIGRATION PROBLEM.

(Daily Press, September 30th.)

In the days before the Russo-Japan war, back to the time of the American annexation of Hawaii, much was said and written regarding Japan's need of an outlet for her surplus population. America and Australia were making an outcry against the immigration of the Asiatic races, and the idea was generally entertained that Japan would therefore be practically forced to secure the Hawaiian Islands as a dumping ground for her surplus population, and at the same time keep the door open also in Korea in view of future needs. Notwithstanding the fact that during the last twenty years the Japanese emigration movement has been growing annually, the population of Japan proper has risen in these two decades from forty millions to over fifty—an average of half a million per annum. The Colony of Formosa has now a Japanese population of about four millions, and large colonies of Japanese are established in Korea and Manchuria, in Hawaii, in the United States and elsewhere. As our readers will be aware, the immigration of Japanese into the United States has of late years been much restricted in accordance with an arrangement amicably made between the Governments of the two countries. The results of Japan's faithful observance of the agreement are beginning to make themselves felt in Japan. The scheme to send Japanese labourers to Mexico and South America has failed, so that, with the doors all down the Pacific coast of the American Continent from Alaska to Peru practically closed against the immigration of Japanese labourers, her statesmen have been obliged to seek outlets elsewhere for the rapidly growing surplus of population. It is reported to be the intention of the Government of Japan to direct the stream of

emigration to Manchuria and Korea. The announcement will not surprise students of the immigration question, for most people must have foreseen that it would come to this in the end. The policy is one, however, which cannot but accentuate the distrust with which the general policy of the Japanese Government in those regions is already regarded by foreign public opinion. There are at the present time upwards of one hundred thousand Japanese in Korea; and since the war with Russia came to an end there has been a large immigration of Japanese into Manchuria, to the sword being followed, so to speak, by the ploughshare. While the stream flowed without special encouragement from the Government, the political significance of the movement scarcely suggested itself to the man-in-the street, but when the Government appears as a driving force behind this immigration movement, the policy is one which is bound to excite the gravest suspicion from a political point of view, however plausible or sound may be the economic reasons which are pleaded. In an article recently contributed to a Paris review by M. LOUIS AUBERT dealing with the emigration of Japanese into America, the writer adopts the view of the American ultra-patriot that there is behind the Japanese emigration movement not only the idea of amassing riches, but also the idea of "fulfilling a national mission." "It is necessary," he says "that Japan should set foot wherever her power is one day to dominate, not only in Korea and Manchuria, but on all the coasts of the Pacific." We may dismiss from our minds the far-fetched notion that any idea is entertained by Japanese statesmen of dominating "all the coasts of the Pacific," but we must agree with the "Japan Chronicle" that the statement we have quoted assumes a certain degree of verisimilitude when it is applied to Count KOMURA's policy of encouraging emigration to Manchuria. "Here", says our Kobe contemporary, there is no inducement for Japanese labourers to swarm into the country. There is no work that cannot be done cheaper by the Chinese themselves. The economic conditions are absolutely unfavourable to the Japanese, and in order to be encouraged to proceed to Manchuria they must be subsidised in some form or other, either by grants or by high wages from the Japanese authorities. Hence the suspicion is bound to arise, however unjust it may be, that the motive underlying such an expensive policy on the part of the Japanese Government is first to Japanese and then to annex Manchuria." Our Kobe contemporary looks for the solution of the emigration problem in "the operation of natural laws, the working of which is only delayed by artificial attempts at a solution." The natural laws in this connection are declared to be, firstly, that increased strenuousness of life in Japan, owing to the sterner economic struggle, will infallibly be reflected in a decline in the birthrate, which will relieve the emigration problem, and, secondly, that artificial barriers and race distinctions will vanish as their maintenance becomes more and more expensive consequent upon the increased mingling of the various peoples. But these, we fear, are visions of a very distant future, and the present day problem can hardly be shelved to await the Millennium. If old outlets for her surplus population are closed against Japan, we must expect her to seek new ones whilst there is no sign of a decline in the birthrate to relieve the problem; and as regards the second argument, the "artificial barrier," which would prevent the peaceful conquest of Manchuria

by Japanese emigrants, is one which the Powers interested in the maintenance of the integrity of the Chinese Empire are likely to do their best to maintain for many years to come, though, in truth, we cannot see that their efforts are likely to be of much avail.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

We do not need to look at the calendar to know that summer is practically over. The sting has been taken out of the heat, and though some may perspire as much as ever there is no doubt that we have many cool spells. The winter's sport and pleasure are beginning to stand out distinctly. Not only football and cricket clubs are in indulging in preliminary practice, but already we have had one or two dances and others are certain to follow.

The fear expressed by some of the unofficial members that the police would not interpret the Liquor Law aright has been justified. It is whispered that one enterprising detective discovered an old woman taking two bottles of brandy out of the colony and he promptly arrested her. When he took her to the Police Station he discovered his mistake, and it required some tact and other considerations to appease the old dame who had been made to lose the steamer by which she intended travelling.

It is too bad to make a joke and not have it appreciated, especially when it is an unusual effort. The Chief Justice introduced a nice little humorous allusion into a solid and solemn judgment the other day, and the Pressmen were so astonished that their pencils failed them. The joke would have been lost had the Chief Justice not made a determined effort to rescue his little ewe lamb from oblivion and repeated it the next day.

Hongkong has done well in the water. Don't misunderstand me. This is no reference to compulsory abstinence from other liquors. I mean that our representatives distinguished themselves against the Shanghai men in aquatics and won the flag which the sister port provided for the greater number of wins. I am told that the Hongkong team has accepted an invitation to visit Shanghai next year and they will do well if they hold the trophy against the swimmers of that city.

We have had our growl about the new import duties, and while we may feel inclined to kick ourselves for not having bought more largely in view of the increased prices, the operation of the Ordinance does not now appear quite so bad as many people imagined. It was thought by some that the harbour trade would be killed by the impost, but all the grumbling done over that has been unnecessary, as the fears which gave rise to it were quite unfounded.

It seems to me that on the whole the Government is to be congratulated for having instituted the new arrangements in a common-sense manner. The iniquitous Customs service with its numerous indignities has yet to be created. At present it only exists in the fervid imagination of misguided critics, and the quiet way in which the new revenue officers go on board steamers and intimate that duty will have to be paid on any liquor which is being imported is a striking contrast to the frenzied utterances of those who could not find language strong enough to denounce the proposed change.

Of course, difficulties will arise and problems will come up for settlement, but if the same level-headed common-sense methods continue to characterise the administration as at present we need have little fear as to the results as to the future.

One problem which has been suggested to me is that if a picnic party wish to enjoy themselves decently, say, on the other side of Lantau Island, will they be allowed a rebate on their case of whisky which is intended for consumption out-

side the Colony? I am sure bathing parties would like to know the answer.

"Nobody," says the Well-Informed Person in a Home paper, "has less patience with dandyism or affectation of any kind than Lord Kitchener. There is a famous story of how he found a young officer using a delicately embroidered lace handkerchief. 'And pray, sir,' said the scandalised General 'what may be your taste in hairpins?' But as usual, the Well-Informed Person misses the whole point of the thing by about five furlongs. As an Indian paper remarks:—It was not the subaltern's handkerchief.

The hatpin nuisance is fortunately not so great with us here as it is in France, where in consequence of the many accidents which have taken place due to those barbarous accessories of feminine attire, the Prefect of Police in Paris has been advised to make regulations that women shall wear safety shields or point protectors on their hatpins to lessen the risk of accident to their fellow-passengers in omnibuses and trains.

RODERICK RANDOM.

HONGKONG.

The revenue officers are now equipped with their distinctive caps, which look very smart indeed.

A Portuguese bluejacket was fined \$8 at the Magistracy yesterday for having been drunk and disorderly in the Naval Canteen.

The only case of communicable disease notified in the Colony last week was a Chinese case of enteric fever in one of the outlying districts.

Major H. de T. Phillips, R.G.A., at present commanding the Hongkong-Singapore Battalion, R.G.A., receives early promotion to lieutenant-colonel.

Major-General Sir Wilsone Black, formerly the Officer Commanding the Troops at Hongkong, who died on July 5, aged 72, left estate valued at £54,824 gross, with net personalty £54,646.

Mr. G. A. Woodcock has been transferred from the Supreme Court to the Magistracy as principal clerk, while Mr. C. D. Melbourne is at the Supreme Court now as deputy registrar and appraiser.

On Sept. 28 the warships in the harbour were decorated with bunting in compliment to the Portuguese, who that day celebrated the anniversary of their beloved Queen Dowager Amelie.

A robbery was committed in Li Yuen Street on Sunday. Thieves gained an entrance to a store by opening the door with a key which they had obtained to fit the lock and stole piece goods to the value of \$800.

It is expected that the Hon. Mr. Rees Davies, K.C., Attorney-General, will act as Chief Justice until Sir Francis Piggott returns and that not unlikely Mr. Hazeland will leave the Magistracy to act as Attorney-General in the interval.

Five men, all waiters, appeared before Mr. Wood yesterday afternoon charged with the murder of another waiter. They were all employed in a restaurant in Des Vœux Road and quarrelled, and the deceased received injuries which caused his death.

An interesting case came before Mr. Wood at the Magistracy on Monday when a dealer in old iron was summoned for having been in unlawful possession of a boat slip valued at \$250. He was found towing it to his premises at Hunghom. He stated that he had a permit to recover wreckage, and the hearing was adjourned until Friday.

Mr. William Rublee, who was appointed to succeed Dr. Wilder as the United States Consul-General at Hongkong, hopes to arrive here early in December. Mr. Rublee has quite recovered from his recent ill ness, which necessitated a surgical operation at Vienna, and is now in the enjoyment of better health than he has had for years. Mr. Stuart Fuller will leave Hongkong shortly after Mr. Rublee's arrival to take up his new appointment as United States Consul at Gottenburg (Sweden).

The late Mr. Kenneth M. Ross, of Jardine, Matheson & Co., of Hongkong, left personal estate of the value of £6,480.

We are asked to state that the Chief Justice does not retire after the Supreme Court vacation. He merely goes on holiday and hopes to return to the Colony about May next.

There was a quiet wedding at the Peak Church on the 29th ult., when Dr. James H. Holmes, M.B., of H.M.S. *Sandpiper*, was married to Miss A. J. Poole, late of the Victoria Hospital.

Two natives were at the Magistracy on Saturday fined \$100 each for having been found in the unlawful possession of 39 bags of vermicelli which had been washed overboard from a steamer at Green Island and discovered and secreted by the prisoners.

Mr. J. S. Dobie, the Hongkong agent of The Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Limited, informs us that the total output of the company's three mines for the week ending 11th September amounted to 26,552.30 tons and the sales during the period to 27,193.40 tons.

One of the water police was severely maltreated the other day when he went on board a dust boat in the harbour to effect the arrest of some people who had been in the habit of dumping rubbish into the harbour. The occupants set upon him and fractured his skull with a chopper. He was taken to the hospital, where he lies in a critical condition.

With the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne to be Deputy Registrar and Appraiser of the Supreme Court; Mr. E. Ralphs to be second master of Queen's College; and Mr. D. W. Tratman to be second Assistant Registrar-General.

At the Magistracy on Sept. 29 Mr. Harry L. White, Nathan Road, Kowloon, charged his house coolie with stealing two long linen coats and one teapot and with leaving his service without giving due notice. On the first charge he was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment and on the second he was fined \$10 or fourteen days' imprisonment.

An extensive robbery was committed at Lantau Island on Sunday. Seven men entered a village in the centre of the island and made a raid on a house occupied by an old man and his son. Armed with poles the robbers intimidated the inmates and took away \$87 in money and a large collection of valuable jewellery and clothing, the total value amounting to \$1,000.

An interesting case came before Mr. Wood at the Magistracy on Sept. 29, when the Sanitary Department summoned a pork butcher for using a stall without permission. Defendant, however, stated that he had received permission to pull down the wall between the stall he rented and the one adjoining, and his Worship held that that being so there was no case against the defendant, who was discharged.

The Colonial Treasurer's statement of the Colony's assets and liabilities on July 31st shows the assets to total \$975,995.71, while the total liabilities are \$379,823.23. The reimbursement due by railway construction account, less the credit balance on account of 1909, is \$118,687.11, while the balance of assets (general account) stands at \$1,718,859.59.

H. E. the Governor has directed that the Harbour Master shall, for the time being, cease to perform *ex officio* the duties of Superintendent of Imports and Exports under the Raw Opium Ordinance, No. 9 of 1887, the Sugar Convention Ordinance, No. 14 of 1904, and the Liquors Ordinance, No. 27 of 1909, and has appointed Lieut. C. W. Beckwith to discharge those duties until further notice.

An exciting incident was witnessed prior to the departure of the *Paul Beau* on Tuesday night for Canton. A Chinese, carrying a basket of clothes for a passenger, fell overboard, and as the guard of the steamer made it impossible to see what was happening the worst was feared. However, the man appeared at the bow and was promptly rescued. He had clung to the basket, but the best part of its contents had disappeared and the passenger was left in a sorry plight.

We understand that a marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Lieutenant Alexander Norman Paxton, of the Royal Engineers, stationed in Hongkong, and Miss Florence Gertrude Dennys, elder daughter of Mr. H. L. Dennys.

Ever since the tragic murder of the two Indian police in the New Territory foreigners there are taking no risks. It is not uncommon now for some when they meet bands of Chinese coming towards them to insist that they separate and stand aside.

Mr. J. Thomson, third engineer of the s.s. *Ningpo*, has reported to the police that he lost on the 25th instant, between the Engineers' Institute and Quarry Bay, a black leather pocket book valued at \$5, and containing a cheque for \$240 and a second of exchange draft for £50.

The syllabus of the Union Church Literary Club is one of the most attractive we have seen, and those responsible for its arrangement are to be congratulated. A wide range of subjects will be considered, and several debates will be introduced. The contributors include Mrs. Bellamy Brown, Mrs. R. A. Bellios, Mrs. W. J. Williams, Miss Briggs, Lieut. Col. Bayard, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. May, Eng. Lieut. Hodson, Dr. F. Clark, Messrs. S. T. Dunn, H. C. White, P. H. Holyoak, E. F. Aucott, E. Gaster, Bellamy Brown, J. J. Stubbings, C. G. Alabaster, F. Browne, J. I. Plummer, and Rev. C. H. Hickling.

As the absence of H. E. the Governor from the Interport Carnival, held under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club, occasioned some comment, we may mention that His Excellency's absence was due to no want of interest in the event. It was Sir Frederick Lugard's intention to have been present on Saturday, but as he was entertaining the late Governor of Macao and suite at luncheon, and afterwards had an interview on an urgent matter with the Director of Public Works, which lasted until 7.30 p.m., His Excellency's absence from the carnival was quite unavoidable. Captain Taylor, A.D.C., the same evening wrote to Mr. Frank Lammert giving this explanation, and saying how sorry His Excellency was not to have been present at the Interport Aquatic Sports which Mr. Lammert and his Committee had so zealously arranged.

The death of an old woman who was knocked down by a truck and received injuries to which she succumbed was the subject of an inquiry at the Magistracy on Monday. Mr. Hazeland, sitting as corner, conducted the inquiry, and the jurors were Messrs. C. A. Warnes, A. C. Putley, and E. G. Smith. It appeared from the evidence that when one of Watson's trucks laden with aerated water bottles turned a corner from Canton Road there was a crowd of people in the way. They all moved out of the way with the exception of an old woman, who was knocked down and whose foot was injured by a wheel passing over it. She was taken to Watson's dispensary, where her wound was dressed. When the police sought to interview her they found that she was so deaf that even with the aid of a megaphone it took them over ten minutes to ascertain her name and age. She died in hospital. The jury wished to know if it was not compulsory for trucks to have brakes in Kowloon, but Inspector Langley informed the Court that the authorities did not consider that it was necessary that they should have brakes in Kowloon. His Worship asked the jury to consider whether death was the result of an accident or of negligence. The jury found that death was due to misadventure, and added a rider to the effect that in their opinion trucks on the Kowloon side should be equipped with brakes.

The Emperor of Japan has conferred the Order of the Sacred Treasure upon the Rev. J. Batchelor, the veteran representative of the Church Missionary Society among the Ainu, in Northern Japan. Mr. Batchelor, who is now at home on leave of absence, has received an intimation of his Imperial Majesty's decision in the following terms: "I have great pleasure in informing you that on the merits of your self-sacrificing labours among the Ainu for the last 30 years and of your contributions to the knowledge of the Ainu language and traditions, our Emperor has decorated you with the Fourth Order of the Sacred Treasure."

THE HONGKONG OPIUM FARM.

SURPRISING FIGURES.

The tenders for the Hongkong Opium Farm for three years from 1st March, 1911, were opened on the 30th ult. They were as follows:—

Per Month.	
Ku Yiu-shan, Loung Kin-sang, and Ng Ming-sau,	\$ 98,750
Ho Shai-kit,	98,600
Luk Yau,	96,000
She Ying-luk,	91,000

The present farm brings in to the Treasury \$1,452,000 per annum, while the highest tender received would amount to \$1,185,000—a reduction of only \$267,000 a year. As the Government had been reckoning on a loss of about \$600,000 per annum, these tenders come as an agreeable surprise to the Government and the taxpayers.

The tenders will be considered by the Executive Council.

COLLAPSE IN D'AGUILAR STREET.

Shortly before four o'clock Thursday afternoon the coping of the roof of the Yee Sang Fat drapery establishment at the corner of Queen's Road and D'Aguilar Street collapsed. As usual, there was a large crowd in the latter street at the time, but fortunately there was not one fatality, notwithstanding the fact that the fallen debris stretched right across the width of the street. The only person injured was the owner of the postcard stall at the corner, who was struck on the arm by a falling brick as he was making his escape. His injury, however, proved slight. The police were early on the scene, and kept the crowd clear of the danger zone. Later, public works officials visited the scene of the collapse, and on their suggestion the lower portion of D'Aguilar street was closed to traffic until shoring operations had been completed.

LORD KITCHENER IN HONGKONG.

For some time now Hongkong has been interested in Lord Kitchener, and when that gallant soldier set foot on our island home on Monday that feeling of interest was demonstrated by the large crowds which had assembled to catch a glance of the man who has done so much for the Empire. His Lordship was a passenger on the *M. M. Sydney*. About eleven o'clock the gun fired from the Peak Signal station indicated that the steamer was in sight. H. E. the Governor and H. E. Major-General Broadwood went out in a private launch to welcome the distinguished visitor. After a brief greeting on the vessel as it came to a standstill near Green Island, to allow of the mails being taken off, Their Excellencies returned to Statue Wharf, H. E. the Governor proceeding to Government House, and H. E. the General to Blake Pier to await Lord Kitchener's arrival. His Lordship, wearing a light lounge suit and a topee, came ashore in the *Victoria* accompanied by his private secretary and Captain Mitchell Taylor, A.D.C. to H. E. the Governor. Here he was met by His Excellency Major-General Broadwood, and after shaking hands with him he greeted Commodore Lyon. Thereafter a number of officers were introduced to him, among the number being Colonel Chamier, Colonel Bayard, Colonel Bedford, Colonel Grant, Lieut.-Colonel Chapman (H.K.V.C.) Captain Marescaux (H.M.S. *Kent*), Commander Heard (H.M.S. *Cadmus*) Major Hart-Snott, Commander Barret (*Clio*), Commander Penfield (H. M. Naval Dockyard) Lieut. Beckwith, and Rev. Dallas Jones. A guard of honour consisted of fifty rank and file of the Buffs under the command of Captain Barker received his Lordship with a salute, which was accompanied by musical honours played by the band. Having inspected the guard of honour he and his aide-de-camp entered chairs and were conveyed to Government House, being escorted by a posse of police. At night his Lordship was entertained to an official dinner at Government House, after which he returned to Mountain Lodge, where he spent the night. On Tuesday he lunched with Sir Paul Chater and afterwards viewed his wonderful collection of Chinese porcelain at Marble

Hall, and at 8 p.m. he dined with the Royal Engineers. At 10 o'clock he embarked on the night steamer for Canton. He spent Wednesday in Canton, staying for the night at the British Consulate-General. On Thursday morning at eight o'clock he left Canton on board a torpedo boat destroyer and boarded the s.s. *Himalaya* at 4.30 en route for Shanghai.

There was something characteristic in the action of Field Marshal Kitchener when he on Tuesday morning paid a surprise visit to the quarters of the 13th Rajputs at Kowloon. His Lordship arrived on the square about seven o'clock and found all the officers and men at duty. He asked to be shown the quarters of the Indian soldiers, and commented upon the cleanliness of the matcheds as well as the uniform whiteness of the sheets. Considering that he had come upon them unexpectedly he considered that their condition was very satisfactory indeed. After this informal inspection he went to the officers' mess and partook of breakfast, the band meanwhile playing. One of the features of the programme was a march specially composed for Lord Kitchener by Bandmaster Coke entitled "Salaam, Burra Sahib." The words of the chorus sung by the men in Hindustani mean "Clear out the road: the Burra Sahib is coming." After breakfast Lord Kitchener went up to the Bandmaster and told him how much he appreciated the march and that he had much pleasure in allowing the march to be dedicated to him. His Lordship and the officers were then photographed, and while the band played the regimental march he bade the officers farewell and said how pleased he was with everything he had seen.

A GANG OF ALLEGED TRICKSTERS.

UNDER BANISHMENT ORDER.

Complaint having been made to the Authorities about the doings of a gang of supposed fortune tellers, six men and a woman who were arrested are to be banished from the Colony, without trial, by order of His Excellency the Governor. Chinese who presume to know say that the members of this gang have been relieving clients of their valuables by hoodwinking them with a trick called "planting the golden tree." A woman is generally the victim, the wiles of the magician apparently hypnotising her, while his artful speeches and promises of future wealth take deep root in her fertile imagination. She is easily persuaded to plant her jewellery in a spot known only to those who are humbugging her, and is made to believe that it will increase in quantity if left where buried for a certain time; that is, provided it has been charmed by the fortune-teller. When next she examines her valuables and finds more than she placed in the buried box, she becomes keen on increasing her stock of adornments, and to this end gathers together all of the family jewellery and places it in the box. The fortune teller, then knowing that he has got all he can expect from his client, removes the box, and when the dupe pays her next visit of inspection she discovers that her jewellery has vanished. Many women in such a predicament have not the courage to face their husbands, and seek to end their troubles by committing suicide.

We understand that Mr. W. E. L. Shenton, from the office of Messrs Deacon, Looker and Deacon, will make an application for *habeas corpus* on behalf of one of the men ordered to be banished.

Mr. E. Schulze, formerly a manager of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank at Tientsin, is reported in northern papers to have left that institution and taken over the firm of Snethlage, Ltd., which is being reconstituted at Shanghai, Mr. Seitz and Mrs. Snethlage being bought out.

Imperial Chinese Commissioner Wen Tsung Yao (an "old boy" of Queen's College, Hongkong) has memorialized the Throne, suggesting various methods for the development of Tibet. He strongly emphasizes the necessity of training a strong army before the introduction of reforms. He also urges compulsory education.

SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Sept. 28 at the Board Room. Mr. F. D. C. Wolfe presided, and there were present: Hon. Mr. P. N. H. Jones (Vice-President), Colonel Bedford, Hon. Mr. A. W. Brawn (Registrar General), Dr. Fitzwilliams, Mr. Shelton Hooper, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. Pearce (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. W. Bowen Rowlands (Secretary).

REMOVAL OF CEILINGS.

The HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT circulated for the opinion of the Board the following questions: (1) Whether the non-plague season November-March is not the best for enforcing the byelaws in regard to the removal of ceilings. (2) Whether the district selected by the Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer of Health, namely, Staunton Street, Elgin Street, Peel Street, Shelley Street, is the best in which to start this work. (3) Whether the work of removal of ceilings should be carried out by contract or by the Sanitary Department's staff under the direction of an inspector. (4) At what rate per square yard compensation shall be paid to the owners of the houses. I think eight cents per square yard would be adequate, as it is compensation for present value and not to enable the owners to replace the ceiling by a new one. If the Board concurs in applying these byelaws now it will be necessary to define the district to be dealt with and to give one month's notice to the owners of the property concerned. There is a vote available for compensation which amounts to \$800 approximately.

Mr. SHELTON HOOPER—Compensation should be assessed in each case, as sometimes it will amount to more than eight cents and others perhaps less.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—I think the best months are from July to November. The month before and after Chinese New Year should not be included in the period. In view of the many objections that will be met with I suggest that a sub-committee be appointed to arrange details. Every step should be taken to avoid friction. As regards Number 3 the owners of the occupiers, as the case may be, should be given the option of removing the ceiling at the expense of the Board.

The PRESIDENT said in this connection that he wished to bring forward four resolutions which he read.

The first resolution was that the byelaws relating to the removal of ceilings and stair linings made by the Board on 10th November, 1908, be applied at once in No. 4 Health District, and the first block of houses to be dealt be that comprised in Elgin Street, Staunton Street, Peel Street and Shelley Street.

The PRESIDENT explained that they thought of doing the work from now on to Chinese New Year, that being the most suitable time for removal.

Mr. HOOPER asked how many houses were in that block?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH replied that there were about 30.

The PRESIDENT said it was contemplated going as far as the amount for compensation at their disposal would allow them.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded and the resolution was carried.

The second resolution was that owners of property be given the option of undertaking the work themselves within a fixed period and that compensation be paid at the rate of eight cents per square yard.

The PRESIDENT, in accordance with Mr. Hooper's minute, suggested that the amount of compensation be left to the committee.

The resolution was amended in that sense and carried.

The third resolution was "that where the Board undertakes the carrying out of this work a contractor be engaged who shall be paid at the rate of so many cents per square yard, and that tenders be called for accordingly. The contractor's duty to consist of (1) removing ceilings and stair linings, including the taking out of all nails and removal of debris and to generally making good; (2) the limewashing of the exposed beams and planks.

This resolution was approved.

The fourth resolution was "that a committee be appointed consisting of three members to

arrange all details in connection with this work."

The resolution was carried, and the President, Vice-President and Mr. Lau Chu Pak were appointed a committee.

MOSQUITO BREEDING.

Correspondence was submitted relative to the byelaw for the prevention of mosquito breeding.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH wrote—As the consideration of this question was left over for a fuller attendance of members I may take the opportunity of replying to the questions raised by the Registrar-General. Filariasis is not a notifiable disease, and I am therefore unable to state how many cases occur annually in Hongkong, but the number will be quite small. Yellow fever, I am glad to say, is unknown in Hongkong; were it otherwise the Sanitary Board would have a far more serious task on hand than any they have yet had to deal with. Filariasis is, however, endemic in southern China, while yellow fever is endemic in the West Indies and in Panama, and it is very generally feared that when the Panama Canal is open to traffic this disease may be imported to the Far East. I learn that, at the present time, a special mosquito survey of India is being made to ascertain in which localities the stegomyia mosquito is to be found—this being the one that conveys yellow fever—and that special steps will be taken to deal with these areas before there is any possibility of the infection reaching that country. As stated in my previous minute these two diseases have been definitely proved to be conveyed to man by mosquitoes which do not belong to the sub-family anophelinae, and although they do not prevail to any extent in Hongkong at the present time I hope the Board will not adopt the policy of waiting until they have become endemic here before taking the necessary steps for their prevention. There are, moreover, other diseases which are most probably conveyed by mosquitoes, and one of them is dengue fever—the facts in regard to the conveyance of the infection in this disease are not yet absolutely decided, but there is enough evidence to induce Professor Ronald Ross to claim recently that the extermination of the mosquito from Port Said and Ismailia has resulted in these towns being absolutely free of dengue while the disease has been raging in other parts of Egypt, and a similar theory has been put forward by Professor Andrew Balfour in regard to Khartoum. Dengue prevails here and is responsible for a considerable amount of sickness among all classes of the community. All biting flies, among which the mosquitoes are included, are capable of conveying septic infection to man, and may thereby induce death from blood poisoning, while the general impairment of health brought about, especially in women and children, by the bites of mosquitoes is an important factor in considering the healthiness or otherwise of the Colony. In view of these considerations, I would urge that the limitation contained in this byelaw be deleted so that steps may be taken, as a case arises, to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes on private premises.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—How many notices have been issued under the original byelaw?

The HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT—For the information of the Registrar-General no notices have been issued.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH then moved that the words "of the sub-family of anophelinae" be deleted from the byelaw made by the Board in October last, and in reply to the Registrar-General explained that no notices had been issued under the byelaw because they had been able to do by persuasion what they now sought power to enforce under the byelaw. A great many pools had been dealt with, and the Chinese themselves were taking a considerable interest in the matter. Apparently they were becoming educated to the knowledge that mosquitoes conveyed disease, and only two or three days ago he had been informed that the Chinese gardeners at West Point were no longer able to sell lilies in pots of water because their patrons realised that mosquitoes were bred in the houses from those pots containing stagnant water. This was a striking illustration of the spread of knowledge among the Chinese of the better class. After a further reference

to diseases spread by mosquitoes, he said that the Board would be justified in amending the byelaw as suggested, and pointed out that there would be no harshness in its application, because in the first place the matter would come before the Board.

Dr. FITZWILLIAMS seconded.

Mr. HOOPER, while in agreement with the principle that the Board should endeavour to limit the breeding of mosquitoes, thought the resolution was unnecessary, inasmuch as the section of the principal Ordinance relating to the prevention of nuisances could be applied. He thought the opinion of the Crown Solicitor should be ascertained as to whether the section to which he referred did not cover such a case as that in view. If it did not, then, the byelaw might be amended as suggested, but he did not think it wise to multiply legislation.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH replied that the matter came under the notice of the Crown Solicitor before it was drafted.

Mr. HOOPER thought his attention should be drawn to it. He was not opposed to the resolution.

The resolution was carried. Mr. Hooper did not vote, but wished his observations to be recorded.

YOUTH CHARGED WITH STEALING BILLS OF EXCHANGE.

WOMAN ACCUSED OF OBSTRUCTING THE POLICE.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Thursday a youth named Tam Pak was indicted on charges of forging and uttering two bills of exchange, one on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for \$100, and one on the Deutsche-Asiatische Bank for \$1,265; with stealing the said bills by pretending to the banks mentioned that he was a person authorised to endorse them on behalf of the firm to which they were payable; and with false pretences in that he secured the bills by the use of a chop which was not the chop of the Chung Shun Wo firm.

The second defendant, who was described as a prostitute, residing at No. 9, Wanchai Road, was charged with obstructing Detective-Sergeant Appleton in the execution of his duty with intent to prevent the lawful apprehension of Tam Pak, and with receiving \$700, well knowing the same to have been feloniously obtained.

Both defendants pleaded not guilty.

Mr. M. Reader Harris (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the defence.

Mr. Harris stated that the complainant was the managing partner of the Chung Shun Wo firm of Californian merchants. About the middle of May this year some agents of that firm in America sent two bills of exchange which arrived in Hongkong in the middle of June. About that time the complainant sent a foki to the Post Office to get his letters. On his return to the firm the foki was stopped by the first defendant, who asked to be shown the letters. After being shown the bundle he took one which he said was addressed to him from relatives in the country, and told the foki not to tell his master that he had taken it. Nothing more happened until last month, when another letter was received from the agents in America enclosing two duplicate drafts, and inquiring whether the first had been received. In consequence of that letter the complainant sent his manager, who was the father of the first defendant, to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and to the Deutsche-Asiatische Bank, to cash the two drafts. On the arrival of the manager at these establishments he was informed that the drafts had been cashed on June 3rd. He was shown the originals, which bore a forged chop and the defendant's name, and the father would state in evidence that the signature was his son's. As soon as it was discovered that these two bills had been cashed, the police were instructed to arrest the defendant. The accused was subsequently apprehended, and in his room \$700 in cash were found and a great number of receipts, all of which dated after June. These were for jewellery and other articles. As the book in which the money was found belonged to the woman, she was charged with receiving.

After evidence was heard the defendants were committed for trial, Mr. Kong Sing reserving his defence.

THE RAILWAY SENSATION.

THE CASE AGAINST MR. BUTLER WRIGHT.

THE PROCEEDINGS AT CANTON: ACCUSED COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

At H. B. Majesty's Consular Court at Canton on Monday, before Mr. Launcelot Giles, Vice-Consul, additional Judge sitting as Police Magistrate, William Butler Wright, chief accountant of the Canton-Kowloon Railway, was indicted on charges of embezzling the sums of \$5,000 and \$13,000, the property of his employers. The information was laid by Mr. Frank Grove, engineer-in-chief of the Canton-Kowloon Railway.

Mr. H. W. Looker (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) assisted by Mr. W. C. L. Shenton, of the same office, prosecuted, and Mr. J. C. E. Douglas, of Shanghai, appeared for the defence.

Mr. Looker, in opening, said the warrant under which the defendant was arrested in effect charged him with fraudulent conversion of two cheques for \$5,000 and \$13,000. The statute under which the prosecution was brought was the Larceny Act of 1901. That was the Act which provided that any person who fraudulently converted to his own use or benefit any monies in his hands should be guilty of a misdemeanour. In the preliminary inquiry he understood that it was in His Worship's province to frame charges with the view to the committal of the defendant for trial. He had made out and handed to His Worship the charges which the prosecution contended would be supported by the evidence, and the speaker suggested that His Worship should keep those charges in mind while proceeding with the evidence, as he would then be in a position to see in what way the evidence related to those particular charges. The charges were that on September 14th, 1908, the defendant was entrusted with certain property, namely, the sum of \$26,218.04, money belonging to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China, in order that he might apply the same to the payment of such accounts as were payable by His Majesty in connection with the Canton-Kowloon Railway. On the same day he converted a sum of \$5,000, part of the said sum of \$26,218.04, to his own use and benefit. The next charge was practically the same in form: that he converted an amount of \$13,000 to his own use on January 3rd, 1909. The next charge was for converting a sum of \$4,000 on February 3rd. Then there was a general charge of converting a sum of \$21,326.44 during some period between December 7th, 1907, and May 2nd, 1909.

Mr. Douglas—Do I understand that the \$21,000 between those dates is made up of sums represented in those three charges?

Mr. Looker—No, it is a separate matter altogether.

Mr. Douglas—So that the total amount is \$43,000 odd?

Mr. Looker—Something like that. Proceeding Mr. Looker stated that for the purpose of construction of the Chinese section of the Canton-Kowloon Railway the Chinese Government borrowed a sum of one and a half million dollars, through the agency of the British and Chinese Corporation, and a loan agreement was entered into which set out the terms of the loan and generally provided for the construction of the railway. Mr. Looker produced an official copy of the loan agreement, which, he said, was made between the Waiwupu, under the authority of Imperial decree, of the one part, and the British and Chinese Corporation of the other part. His Worship would see by the agreement that the proceeds of the loan were to be used for the construction and equipment of the railway. In Article 1, the raising and issuing of the loan were provided for. The speaker would show later on that a copy of this agreement was in the possession of the defendant, and necessarily so in the course of his duties as British accountant-in-chief. He

mentioned this because there were various portions of the agreement which tended to set out what the defendant's duties were, and in what way the proceeds of the loan were to be applied. Article 4 provided that the bonds were to be raised in England and kept in England, and from time to time in accordance with the requirements of the railway certain portions of the amount raised were transferred to Hongkong and placed in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to the credit of construction account for the exclusive purpose of constructing the railway. The last paragraph provided that account of monies spent from time to time in England, and the amount of money spent on construction and for other purposes, should be reported to the Viceroy for the information of the Waiwupu. From the concluding paragraph of Article 4 it would be seen that it was provided by the loan agreement that accounts of money spent from time to time in England, and money transferred for the credit of construction and other accounts in China, should be submitted quarterly to the head office. Those accounts, in the ordinary course of events, were to be prepared and submitted by the British chief accountant. The prosecution would prove that although the defendant got out quarterly accounts of the construction account in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, he did not get out any other quarterly accounts, whereas he should have got out quarterly accounts of every account in China. Paragraph 3 of Article 6 provided for the duties of the British chief accountant. Account of receipts and disbursements on railway construction were to be kept in English and Chinese under the direction of the chief accountant, and all receipts and payments were to be certified to by the same person and authorised by the Managing Director. Under that clause it was provided that the chief accountant's duties were to organise and supervise accounts, receipts and disbursements. The only other document of this description in the case was the defendant's agreement. Under the loan agreement it was necessary to employ a British chief accountant to supervise and organise the accounts of the railway. Mr. Looker put in an original copy of defendant's agreement, which was signed by the defendant, the Chinese authorities, and by the British and Chinese Corporation. That agreement was made between His Excellency the Viceroy of the first part, the British and Chinese Corporation of the second part and the defendant of the third part. The fourth clause was of some importance, in view of the events which had happened. It stated that the defendant should not, on any pretence whatever, absent himself from duty, without permission from head office. The defendant could have been under no possible misapprehension as to what his duties were regarding the disposal of monies which came under his control in connection with the railway. It must have been quite clear to him that he had no right or authority to pay railway monies to anybody except persons to whom, under instructions from head office, he was directed to pay such monies; to persons who were entitled to such monies by virtue of services performed or materials and goods supplied to the railway. It must have been quite clear to him that he had no right or authority under any circumstances to apply railway money to other than railway purposes. The next material clause was Clause 9. According to that the defendant was to be paid a salary at the rate of £600 a year sterling, payable in Hongkong currency, half at the rate of a 2/- dollar, and half at the prevailing rate of exchange of the day. The whole or any part of the defendant's salary was to be payable as he directed, in China or London, and the speaker would show that out of a salary of £50 a month £40 was paid in London, so that the only portion paid here was the balance of £10. In addition to this he had his house allowance of \$130 a month, until a house was provided. Up to the time defendant left Shameen recently no house was provided, and his house allowance was paid him. Therefore the actual amount of salary and allowance paid him here was £10 payable in Hongkong currency and \$130 house allowance, and, roughly speaking, that would amount to \$246 a month according to the rate of exchange. As a very large number of payments for work had to be made in local currency, His Excellency

Wei Han, the managing director, decided as a matter of convenience to establish a railway account in Canton at the International Banking Corporation. That account was known generally as an "impress" account, a term well known in railway construction. This account was sub-divided into two other accounts, one of which was known as the Hongkong currency account, and the other as the local currency account. The method of paying local currency accounts was for the defendant to issue the necessary cheques, get His Excellency to sign them, and then transfer the amount to the credit of the Hongkong currency account. The local currency accounts at the International Bank, Canton, were under the sole control of the defendant, and he was authorised to sign cheques on them in his own name. They were under his control to be utilised for the purpose of various accounts on the railway. The accounts came under various classes. First of all there were payments for purchases of land, then from time to time contractors and workmen on the railway had to be paid money for work done and material supplied. Money also had to be paid for stores, and in addition to the "impress" account at the International Bank in Canton each district engineer had to be supplied with funds to make his own local payments. Also from time to time various contracts were entered into for the supply of materials or labour, for which from time to time payments had to be made, and in addition to that there were the ordinary current expenses at the office. Mr. Grove, as engineer-in-chief, was the person responsible for the economical and efficient construction of the railway. As a matter of fact, His Excellency deputed to Mr. Grove the whole of the control of construction and equipment. The only thing His Excellency attended to in person was the purchase of Chinese land. The defendant had no authority to make payments unless the accounts were initialled by Mr. Grove. The only accounts he was authorised to pay on his own initiative were current office expenses. His salary was roughly \$650 a month, £40 of which was drawn at Home and the remaining £10 was also remitted. Therefore, the only money he had to provide for current expenses here appeared to be his house allowance of \$130, and even if at all times he did not remit the £10, the total would not be more than \$240. The defendant's private pass book at the International Bank from December 7th, 1909, to August 31st, 1909, showed a total sum of \$55,000 paid into his own account. He was in receipt of a salary and allowances, which, if he paid all of it into his credit, would amount to something like \$650 a month, while his payments in on the average amounted to \$2,300 a month.

Mr. Douglas—If the case for the prosecution rests on the defendant's private account it rests nowhere at all. I would suggest that unless it is absolutely necessary, this subject should not be opened up.

Mr. Looker said he was not resting his case on that. The exact payments were only part of the case. He was putting forward such facts, which in relation to other facts put forward, would have to be taken into consideration by whoever had to determine the question of defendant's innocence or guilt. The prosecution found, after investigation of the railway accounts at the International Bank, that on three separate occasions the defendant had drawn out as he was authorised, from the International Bank Hongkong currency account, three separate cheques for \$5,000 \$13,000 and \$4,000, and subsequently paid these cheques into his own private account. Later he paid practically the whole of this money away to parties who had nothing whatever to do with the railway. The speaker would establish that at this time the balance of defendant's private account was not sufficient to meet these cheques. Somewhere about the end of last year Mr. Grove came to the conclusion that the accounts were not being kept in a regular manner and the result was that an audit was authorised. The fact of this audit was communicated to the defendant on August 6th. It was to have started on the 10th, but the defendant stated that the accounts could not be written up till the 31st of that month. Consequently the starting of this audit was postponed until the date mentioned, when it was carried out by the gentleman in charge of Messrs.

Lowe, Bingham and Matthews, accountants and auditors of Hongkong. On the evening of September 2nd the defendant left the Shameen. Before he left he obtained no official permission to go, nor did he officially notify anybody that he was going except in such a manner that it only reached his superiors after he left. It was not suggested that the defendant made any secret of his going, because it was not known in Canton days before that he was going. It would be established further that a few days prior to his leaving he had a conversation with Mr. Power, the sub-accountant, during the course of which he mentioned that he was going to Japan for his health. Mr. Power suggested that it was rather an awkward time to go while the accounts were being audited, as the defendant was the only man who knew anything about them. Mr. Wright replied that he had to go, and he did go. On Thursday, September 2nd, Mr. Grove asked the defendant if he was going away, and he said he was. Mr. Grove told him that he should first of all get His Excellency's permission, and leave the accounts written up and in order. Defendant promised to do this, and said he expected to leave Shameen on Friday evening. He left his office at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday afternoon and did not return. He, however, sent a letter to H. E., the managing director, informing him that he was obliged to leave, and enclosed in the envelope a doctor's certificate.

Mr. Looker said the charges were of such a serious nature that the case should be sent to the Supreme Court at Shanghai to be tried before a jury. He submitted that it was a case in which the ends of justice necessitated that the defendant should be sent for trial.

His Excellency Wei Han was the first witness. He deposed to being the managing director of the Imperial Chinese section of the Canton-Kowloon Railway, being appointed in July, 1907, by H. E. the Viceroy. The railway was being constructed by the Chinese Government by means of a loan which was obtained through the British and Chinese Corporation. Mr. Grove's main duties were to supervise the construction details of the railway, and defendant's duties were to organise the system of accounts. Defendant reported to witness on railway accounts. A construction account was opened at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at Hongkong. Cheques on it were signed by witness and defendant. Defendant used to present various cheques of various amounts for signature. Witness did not authorise the defendant to pay cheques to Tai Lee, Mr. E. C. Wilks and Captain Walcott.

Mr. Douglas at this stage said he understood that His Excellency's evidence would not be available if the case came on for trial, as he intended leaving China. As it was also the first time on which he had been made acquainted with the charges, he would apply for an adjournment.

The Court rose until after tiffin.

On the Court resuming Mr. Douglas cross-examined H. E. Wei Han. He said that Mr. Butler Wright's action in leaving the Shameen was a breach of his agreement. When he read the letters written by Mr. Butler Wright in September he believed that they required an answer, but thought the defendant should have awaited an answer before leaving. Witness heard by telephone that Mr. Wright had left, and called on Mr. Grove to ask him if it was true. Mr. Grove said it was.

What did you do next?—No answer.

Who went to the Consul; you or Mr. Grove?—I don't know.

Do you know if anyone went to the Consul that morning or on that day?—No.

Then any information laid was not laid with your authority?—No.

And in its inception this prosecution was Mr. Grove's?—Yes.

Are you aware of Clause 7 of Mr. Butler Wright's agreement?—Yes.

After reading that don't you think he's entitled to absent himself from Canton for three or four weeks if sick?—Yes, but at audit time he should be away only two or three days.

You've told us that it was with your agreement Mr. Butler Wright had funds in the International Bank at Canton?—Yes.

Was it not an arrangement with the defendant?—Yes.

Do you know that Mr. Grove was instrumental in having the interest account opened in Canton?—I don't know anything about it.

I believe I'm right in saying that the agreement prohibits accounts being kept in any other bank than the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank?—Yes.

Proceeding, witness said that the British and Chinese Corporation had expressed an opinion that funds should be kept in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

I'll put it to you the account in the International Bank was not strictly speaking a railway account at all?—How can you say that?

I believe you always paid for purchases of land from the construction account at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank?—That is so.

You asked the accountant from time to time for so much money for land purchases?—Yes.

And you got from him in cheques fairly large sums?—Yes.

Do you remember the largest?—\$100,000.

Where was that put?—In the bank.

In whose name?—In mine.

Have any of those sums ever been transferred to any other person or account than the vendor of land?—No.

I put it to you that this system of getting money in advance was done for convenience?—What do you mean by convenience?

Convenience in working.—It was the only way of working.

Continuing, the witness said it would be equally inconvenient for Mr. Butler Wright to go to him for his signature for each individual amount paid out by him under the railway construction account. The questions of paying railway accounts were left to and organised by Mr. Wright. Witness was on good terms with the defendant, and had always found him a satisfactory person to deal with. Witness remembered when they wished to realise £500,000 in London, but they could not come to terms, the reason being that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank would not give a T/T rate. He consulted Mr. Butler Wright on the subject. With that one exception all transfers had been made at T/T rate. The railway accounts were balanced quarterly, and every item drawn from the construction account was accounted for in such quarterly account. The International Bank account was fed from the construction account. The audit spoken of was the first directed to take place on the railway. Witness could not say whether the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank refused to open an account in local currency.

In re-examination witness stated that when he received defendant's letter stating that he wished to go away he communicated with Mr. Grove. When he knew that Mr. Grove was issuing the warrant for the arrest of the defendant he did not repudiate it. The balance sheets of railway accounts only showed the balance, but did not show details.

Mr. F. Grove, British engineer-in-chief of the Canton-Kowloon railway, Imperial Chinese section, stated that his duties consisted of looking after the construction and equipment of the line in as economical a manner as possible. Witness was responsible for the correctness of the amount paid out with regard to contract work, materials, etc. Defendant's duties were to control and supervise the accountants' department. As accountant he was in supreme control of that department, under the supervision of His Excellency Wei Han. Defendant was also responsible for the clerical correctness of the accounts. Certain contracts entered into by district engineers, other purchases of material, and other payments on loan contracts could be paid by the chief accountant himself in anticipation of approval. Before paying contracts defendant required recognised authority. The head office was under the supreme direction of H. E. Wei Han, but he allowed witness to have full control of the construction staff and equipment of the railway. It was necessary for witness to see how expenditure was progressing, having regard to the railway estimates. He was responsible for the quantity of construction.

Apart from payments witness was directly responsible for, there were payments made to His Excellency in connection with the purchase of land. Some of the accounts for construction and equipment were payable in Hongkong, and some in Canton currency. The amount paid in Canton currency has lately averaged about \$100,000 a month. A construction account was started in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and later an interest account vested in the name of the chief accountant. Witness understood the interest account was started for the purpose of paying local accounts in Canton currency. The difference in exchange between Canton and Hongkong currency averaged about six per cent. in favour of Hongkong. All his estimates were made in Hongkong currency, and he also estimated that as far as payments were concerned four to five million dollars would have to be paid in Canton currency. Assuming that the total expenditure was £4,000,000, six per cent. on that would be \$240,000, which was roughly the saving on the estimate. The suggestion to audit the accounts emanated from witness to the Corporation. He made the suggestion confidentially in the early part of 1909, if not in the early part of 1908. Various reasons led him to recommend this audit, which was finally decided upon at the end of last August. At the end of June witness asked defendant for the bank balances. He referred specially to the construction in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and believed he mentioned the International Bank. Witness wished to check remittances from England, and to satisfy himself that the work was properly accounted for. On September 1st witness heard a rumour that defendant was going away. On the following day he asked defendant if it was his intention to take leave, and defendant replied that it was. Witness raised no objection so long as he got permission and handed over the books and accounts to the assistant accountant in a proper manner. On September 3rd witness was handed a pass book purporting to be Mr. Butler Wright's private account. He found a number of large credits and payments, the payments being especially suspicious in appearance. Witness referred the matter to the manager of the International Bank for an explanation. Information received afterwards on one of the payments corrected the impression he had made. Apart from large payments, there were several other payments in defendant's account which appeared to be suspicious, having regard to the fact that defendant drew the larger part of his salary in London. With the exception of an interest in a patent medicine, witness had no knowledge that the defendant had any private means. Witness first referred the matter to the British Consul, and after discussing it with him, referred it to the British and Chinese Corporation, who told him to take out a warrant. Witness said he was aware of the manner in which defendant used to arrive at the amounts which from time to time he drew from the railway construction account in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and put into the Hongkong currency account at the International Bank, Canton. A memorandum was prepared of the number of payments necessary, and these were added up and cheques drawn for the full sum or each separate amount. It was defendant's custom to withdraw from the construction account and place in the Hongkong currency account, then to transfer certain monies to the Canton currency account, and proceed to draw for such payments as were necessary in Canton currency. This method would result in profits being made in exchange. Witness stated that for the purpose of supplying him with the bank balances at the end of June it was not necessary to have any balance in the local bank paid back to construction account. Neither was it necessary for monies to pass from the defendant's private account to the railway account. He regarded such a method of dealing with accounts as an extraordinary one. In a general way witness had taken steps to ascertain the state of the accounts organised and controlled by the defendant; and in his opinion in many directions these accounts were not in order.

Cross-examined by Mr. Douglas, witness said there was probably a construction account opened

in the early days of the construction, before defendant arrived, or during his absence. In the absence of Mr. Butler Wright cash was obtained for the works in progress, and during that time it was operated upon by His Excellency Wei Han and witness. He had not a very distinct recollection as to where the account was, or the manner in which it was operated on.

Was not an account for \$10,000 opened by you?—I don't remember.

But you do remember there was an account at that time?—Yes, there was an account from which we drew cash, but whether it was supplied with \$10,000 at my request or not I can't remember.

Mr. H. S. Chow, Secretary to His Excellency Wei Han, stated that the defendant kept the quarterly balance sheets he prepared. Witness produced a book of such statements up to the end of March, 1909. The balance sheet for the quarter ended March 31st was not accompanied by the usual statement, and it had not yet been received. It was the duty of witness to get these statements of expenditure translated for the Board of Posts and Communications. The statements of expenditure were not accompanied by the vouchers for money paid. Witness used to ask to see the vouchers when he did not understand any item, and the chief accountant would show them to him. In buying lands joint cheques were drawn on the construction account by the managing director and the defendant. This money was paid to the managing director. The statement of expenditure did not show how the monies drawn from the International Bank were spent.

In cross-examination witness said the whole of the railway expenditure was shown in the quarterly accounts. The vouchers were kept in the Chief Accountant's office.

Mr. H. W. Kenney deposed to being acting manager of the International Banking Corporation at Canton. Witness gave evidence regarding the opening of two accounts at his branch which were drawn upon by Mr. Butler Wright as Chief Accountant of the railway. Defendant was the only party who had authority to draw on them. In most instances the Hongkong currency account was supplied with funds by cheques drawn on the construction account at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Mr. Wright also had a private account at the Canton branch which was established on December 7th, 1907. A cheque was drawn on the Hongkong currency account for \$5,000 on 14th September, 1908. The Railway Co.'s Hongkong currency account was debited with the amount of this cheque, and Mr. Butler Wright's private account was credited with it. Prior to the crediting of that cheque the balance at credit of defendant's private account was \$3,767.98. On the same date a cheque for \$5,000 was drawn in favour of E. C. Wilks, and that cheque was debited to defendant's account. On December a cheque for \$13,000 was drawn by Mr. W. Butler Wright on the Hongkong currency account, and the railway account was debited with that amount, which was placed to the credit of defendant's private account. The amount to his credit prior to this was \$180.35. The first cheque he drew after this credit was for \$10,000 in favour of Tai Lee. On February 4th, 1909, a cheque for \$4,000 was drawn on the chief accountant's account, which was debited with the amount on that day. The amount was credited to defendant's private account, the balance of that account then standing at \$2,025.46. There were two debits on that day, one for \$39.82 and one for \$113.16. The next debit was \$100, the next \$43.75, and the next \$5,000, which was drawn in favour of Captain Walcott. On May 4th a sum of \$10,025 was credited to defendant's private account by two cheques. The total amount paid to the credit of defendant's private account from December, 1907, to the last entry of credit was \$55,086.87. On June 29th a cheque for \$4,000 was drawn on defendant's private account and credited to the chief accountant's Hongkong currency account on the same day. Prior to this credit \$15,000 stood to the credit of that account. On June 29th a cheque was drawn on the Hongkong currency

account for \$9,848.78, and on the same day another cheque for \$4,000 was drawn. Still on the same day there was a transfer of \$20,000 Hongkong dollars from that account to the local currency account.

In cross-examination witness said defendant had told him that he intended to close the Hongkong currency account.

At this stage the Court adjourned until Tuesday.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. E. A. M. Williams, assistant to Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews, accountants and auditors, Hongkong, was the next witness. He stated that in July last his firm was instructed to audit the accounts of the railway. The audit was commenced on August 31st, and the firm hoped to complete it in three weeks, but they were delayed because the accounts were all in a muddle. Witness investigated three banking accounts and another small account. The cash book kept was inadequate for the large transactions of the railway, while the question of exchange was one which it would take some time to unravel. The cheques which were drawn in Hongkong currency were afterwards transferred to the International Bank local currency account. Defendant's general practice was to draw a series of cheques on the construction account. In drawing money from the construction account to pay cheques which were to be paid in Hongkong and Canton currency, defendant drew as if they were all payable in Hongkong currency, and this would result in a profit where the cheques were payable in Canton currency. The profit would result in this way: Mr. Wright would transfer a lump sum from the Hongkong to the local currency account in the International Bank at Canton, and then he would pay in Canton currency. This was frequently done, and in each case where there were Canton payments to be made, there was a resulting profit owing to exchange. The result would be that from time to time the defendant would have a profit on his hands in one or other of the Canton accounts. Witness should say that the lowest amount of profit made on exchange would be \$50,000. He could practically account for that sum, and was of opinion that the profit would eventually turn out to be larger. Up to June 30th witness knew that the profits on exchange were \$49,456.08 Canton dollars.

In defendant's accounts have you found any entries to show how this profit is accounted for?—I found entries which I presume were intended to show the profit. The total of these entries is \$21,286.95.

On the assumption that the total of these payments is in Canton currency, what balance does that leave unaccounted for through profit on exchange?—\$28,169.13.

Have the accounts been kept in such a manner as to enable the profits made on exchange to be easily ascertained by an auditor?—Certainly not.

If the accounts had been properly kept ought it to have been easy for an auditor to ascertain these profits?—Yes.

Mr. H. W. Kenney, manager of the Canton branch of the International Bank, recalled, said in cross-examination that standing orders were given the bank by Mr. Butler Wright with reference to the transfer of funds from the Hongkong currency account to the local currency account.

Mr. E. A. M. Williams, recalled, said there was nothing in the books to show why the defendant should pay \$4,000 out of his private account into the Hongkong currency account. Witness had not discovered anything in the railway accounts which necessitated the transfer of any sums from the currency accounts to the construction account. The construction account was only supposed to be credited with funds from Home. Witness had seen defendant's private account, and knew his salary. He had not found anything to show what he did with the £10 balance of salary which was not paid at Home. The defendant's monthly expenditure averaged \$2,300 a month after the opening of a private account by him at the International Bank, Canton. The following were the

monthly payments to the credit of defendant's private account:—December, 1907, \$350; January, 1908, \$1,000; March, \$13,099.42; April, \$2,400; May, \$4.50; August, \$1,500; September, \$5,000; December, \$15,404.56; January, 1909, \$1,000; February, \$5,179; March, \$328; April, \$1,481; May, \$10,370; June, \$1,862.50; July, \$249.48; August, \$2,988.85. Defendant's pass-book also shows that £682 2s had been remitted Home.

Cross-examined by Mr. Douglas, witness said the accounts did not readily enable him to arrive at the profit on exchange. The sum of \$100 drawn on the construction account and transferred to the local currency account in the Canton branch of the International Bank would amount to between \$105 and \$108.

And the odd \$5 or \$8 would be in the local currency account?—Yes.

Will you explain how, in case of \$100 going through that process, the profit could be anywhere else?—It could be nowhere else.

Do you know out of which account allowances to servants of the Company were paid?—I can't say.

You have no knowledge of Mr. Butler Wright's income from other sources than those talked about?—No.

Are there any months in which there were no profits on exchange?—I cannot say, but I should say that every month there was a profit.

Mr. E. A. Stanton testified to being the manager of Messrs. Deacon and Co., and prior to the institution of the Canton branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, his firm acted as the agents of that bank. On June 29th Mr. Butler Wright handed him cheques to the value of \$22,848.78, which he said were to be placed to the credit of construction account in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Hongkong.

Mr. G. Richarme said he was the manager of the silk department in Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s Canton branch. Mr. Butler Wright approached him with regard to the investment of money in December last. He asked if there was any money to be made by investments in silk, and witness said there was at times. Defendant said he would take an opportunity when one offered. Subsequently he made an advance of \$10,000 on silk. Defendant handed him a cheque made out in a Chinese name, and witness handed the cheque to the Chinaman. The silk on which the money was advanced was in Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s godown. The interest attaching to the loan was \$7 per month per \$1,000, and for four months it amounted to \$280. The cheque in repayment of the \$10,000 was signed by the firm who purchased the silk.

In cross-examination witness said the whole of this transaction was on behalf of a friend of his. The transaction took place just before Chinese new year, and money was tight then. \$7 a month was not a low rate of interest for an outside person to advance to a Chinaman.

Do you remember whether you broached this subject on behalf of the Chinaman, or whether the defendant broached it?—Yes, I spoke to the Chinaman before seeing Mr. Wright.

Mr. J. O. Power, sworn, said he was assistant accountant at the head office of the Canton-Kowloon Railway, Imperial Chinese section. He knew the defendant intimately prior to his arrival here. Witness had no knowledge as to defendant's means prior to his coming out here. He stayed with defendant from March 6th till July 4th.

How was his flat furnished?

Mr. Douglas—Is this relevant?

Mr. Looker said he was entitled to prove that the flat was furnished in an extremely luxurious fashion, that the defendant was addicted to gambling, and that his expenditure was very large. He was putting in this evidence because it was evidence from which inference of fact could be drawn.

Mr. Douglas took a formal objection to the evidence. The facts which his friend had to prove were facts bearing in some way on the charges. A man might have a most expensive chair in his house, but the fact that he had that

expensive chair did not carry the prosecution one step further.

His Worship thought the questions concerning furniture were unnecessary.

Mr. Looker said they were relevant to this extent: the defendant was in receipt of a salary of about \$650 a month, and it was found that the great bulk of that was remitted Home. It had been established, so far as was known at present, that the defendant had no known means outside his salary. The prosecution were entitled to prove that the defendant was in charge of an extremely large amount of railway funds, and that while he remitted the most of his salary Home he paid in large amounts to his private account, and there was no information as to where he obtained them, so that it could be assumed that they were obtained from railway funds of which he had control.

His Worship—You have put in his pass-book, and the book shows on the left hand side certain entries. You have got to show how he obtained those, not how he spent them.

Mr. Looker—I am entitled to show that his rate of living and rate of expenditure necessitated the drawing of large sums of cash which he must have obtained from some source or other. On the conclusion of the audit we may be able to establish that there is a deficit in the railway accounts.

His Worship—Mr. Williams said that the defendant's average expenditure per month was \$2,300.

Mr. Douglas submitted that the rules of evidence must be followed.

Mr. Looker—I thoroughly and entirely agree, but submit that this is relevant evidence.

Mr. Douglas—To save the time of the Court I will withdraw my objection.

His Worship (to Mr. Looker)—You had better leave that evidence out.

Mr. Looker (to witness)—Have you any knowledge as to whether the defendant was addicted to gambling at fantan?—He said he had a system by which he was sure of success.

Did he ever tell you anything as to his financial circumstances when he came here?—He said he was making a lot of money out of a patent medicine, and used to win \$250 and \$300 a time at fantan.

You haven't answered my question yet, Mr. Power?—He told me he came here like a missionary, with only a bible and a tooth brush. (Laughter.)

In cross-examination witness said he did not know that for over twenty years the defendant had received a salary of a thousand rupees a month, but from the positions he had held witness should say that he received a salary of from 800 to 1,000 rupees. He had never heard defendant complain of losses at fantan. When Mr. Wright announced his intention to go away he was not in very good health.

Mr. A. G. Brimble, superintendent of police on the Shameen, deposed to receiving instructions from H. B. W.'s Consul to take possession of the effects of Mr. Butler Wright after the defendant left, which he did. There were five packing cases in the flat, none of which were addressed.

Cross-examined—As superintendent of police on the Shameen, did you think it a suspicious circumstance that a man should pack up his curios?—I did not.

Mr. P. Lawrie said he was not an auctioneer, but he had sold goods by auction. Defendant told him he was going on three weeks' leave had to give up his flat, and said he could not take all his goods with him. He pointed out to witness goods which he wished sold, and others which he wished shipped away. Witness did not ship them, however, because a warrant had been issued for defendant's arrest.

In cross-examination witness said Mr. Wright told him clearly that he was returning in three weeks.

This concluded the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Looker informed the Court that the audit had not yet been fully completed. In the event of the defendant being committed for trial, and in the event of the trial taking place within a few weeks, additional evidence would probably be given by the accountant.

Mr. Douglas hoped that that statement would not be taken into consideration by the Court,

The Court was concerned with four charges, and it was His Worship's duty to consider whether on those four charges, or any of them, a *prima facie* case had been made out. He did not propose to take up the time of the Court by contending that three of the charges, for sums amounting to \$5,000, \$4,000 and \$13,000, were matters on which the Court was entitled to ask for an explanation, but an explanation would be forthcoming in due course. What he now submitted was that there was absolutely no evidence to support a *prima facie* case upon the fourth charge, the charge of larceny of a sum of \$21,000 odd. He contended that the prosecution had failed to make out a *prima facie* case to support the charge that Mr. Butler Wright did, between certain dates, defraud them of \$21,326.44. It was the duty of the prosecution when they brought a criminal charge to lay before the Court facts which would establish a *prima facie* case pointing to the guilt of the accused. The facts must be logically pieced together so as to bring the mind of the Court to the conclusion that a crime had been committed. The facts put forward brought the mind to no such logical conclusion. They were nothing more than a collection of facts and suggestions—mostly suggestions—pointing to certain suspicions, and practically asking the accused to take the stand and prove that he had not stolen \$21,000. According to English law it was not for a man to prove himself innocent because the prosecution made a charge. It was the duty of the prosecution to support that charge by evidence. His learned friend's idea of a *prima facie* case ought rather to be considered as a frivolous joke. It was exactly like the case of the village greengrocer who found an errand boy in possession of 17/6. The greengrocer said to the boy, "Your wages are 5/- a week, you may have won 2/6 at marbles, but you are guilty of the larceny of 10/-," and that poor little errand boy was going to be found guilty because he could not prove that he came by the 10/- honestly. Counsel submitted that on the facts put forward the Court must dismiss the charge to which he referred. It was alleged that this sum of \$21,000 was made up by stealing profits derived from exchange in Hongkong and Canton currency, but there was no evidence of any payments being made direct into local currency. There were only two ways in which interest could have been stolen: it must either have come out of the local currency or Hongkong currency accounts, or else it was stolen by a cheque paid on a false voucher. There had been auditors on the books, but they were not able to give evidence of wrong payments out of currency accounts. Counsel concluded by asking the Court to dismiss that charge.

Mr. Looker said his friend had been pleased to describe the fourth charge as a frivolous one. Of course he was perfectly entitled to describe it, and all the other charges, as frivolous, until they had been determined upon, but the Court might find them anything but frivolous. His friend had said that it was not for a man to prove himself innocent, but the speaker did not think he was quite correct. There were many cases in criminal annals, where, in default of an explanation which could be given, and which it was in the power of a defendant to give, had he so given it he would have been freed from a term of imprisonment subsequently imposed. The prosecution had established that whereas the defendant was getting a salary of \$650 or \$675 a month, of which the main portion was paid at Home, he managed to obtain somewhere or other an amount equivalent to \$55,000 which he could not possibly have obtained from salary. They had established *prima facie* evidence which showed that he was paying into his private account monies which belonged to the railway. There might be an explanation to this fact, but that was another point. It was also established that large profits were necessarily made in exchange and that the accounts in the International Bank at Canton were under the sole control of the defendant. He could put in what amounts he liked and draw what amounts he liked until the final day of reckoning came.

Mr. Looker proceeded to detail the numerous facts he had established, and contended that

the motive of the defendant in paying a certain amount into the construction account was to prevent discovery by Mr. Grove of an amount missing from the railway accounts. The speaker concluded by submitting that there was amply sufficient evidence to enable His Worship to commit the defendant for trial.

Defendant, who had been permitted to sit by his counsel during the trial, was told to enter the dock. The customary caution was administered, and he was asked if he proposed to make any statement in respect of the charges preferred against him.

He replied—I reserve my defence.

Mr. Douglas asked the Court to make a note of his objection.

His Worship—The objection you raise is a matter of law, and it will be remitted to the crown advocate, who has power to expunge it if he thinks fit. The case will be committed to the Supreme Court and the accused will be remanded in custody, or, released on bail, on the same terms as before, namely, two sureties of \$10,000 each.

Mr. Douglas asked His Worship if, in the event of his client being unable to raise those sureties, the Court would allow him to remain at his own house under surveillance. His client had been put to considerable expense and inconvenience in connection with the whole matter.

His Worship—The question of detention is one for the British Consul, and not for this Court.

Mr. Looker said the only authority the Court had was to commit the accused by warrant to prison. He did not think that could be fulfilled by committing him to any other place than a place which was recognised as a prison.

His Worship—The point is that in Canton there is no prison.

Mr. Looker—The Court has power to commit the defendant to Hongkong to prison.

Mr. Douglas—None whatsoever. A man convicted can be removed for imprisonment in Hongkong, but only by an order of the Supreme Court.

It was decided to refer the matter to the Consul.

THE BRANDY CASE.

THE MAGISTRATE'S DECISION.

At the Magistracy on Sept. 29 Mr. F. A. Hazeland delivered his reserved decision in the case in which Mrs. Meyer, of the Colonial Hotel; Tai Sing, compradore, Queen's Road Central; and Chung Cheong, compradore, Arsenal Street, were charged with selling brandy not of the nature demanded, and also with selling adulterated brandy.

Mr. F. B. L. Lowley, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted in all cases; Mr. John Hastings (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) defended Tai Sing and Chung Cheong; and Mr. P. Sydenham Dixon, of Mr. R. A. Harding's office, represented Mrs. Meyer.

His Worship said—The three defendants, Merlin Sophia Meyer, proprietress of the Colonial Hotel, Tai Sing, compradore, and Chung Cheong, compradore, were summoned by Inspector Gourlay, inspector of police, each on the following two charges:—(A) That on the 7th July, 1909, they did sell to the prejudice of the purchaser an article of food for man, to wit, brandy which was not of the nature, substance or quality of the article demanded by the purchaser, contrary to Ordinance 8 of 1896, section 6 (Sale of Foods and Drugs Ordinance 1896); (B) That on the 7th July, 1909, they did sell adulterated liquor, to wit, brandy, and not of the quality demanded by the purchaser contrary to Ordinance 8 of 1898, section 2 (Liquor Licences Ordinance, 1898).

Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance, 1896, is as follows:—"Every person who sells, to the prejudice of the purchaser, any article of food or any drug which is not of the nature, substance, or quality of the article demanded by such purchaser shall in every case, on summary conviction before a Magistrate, be liable to a penalty not exceeding two hundred dollars and, in default of payment thereof, to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding three months."

The definition of "adulterated liquor" under the Liquor Licences Ordinance, 1898, is as follows:—"Adulterated liquor" means any liquor mixed or coloured to the prejudice of the purchaser with any ingredient whatever or with water, either so as to increase its bulk and measure or so as injuriously to affect the quality of such liquor or to conceal its inferior quality, or any liquor which is not virtually of the nature and quality demanded by the purchaser or of the liquor which it is labelled as being or purporting to be, whether such adulterated liquor is injurious to health or not. Spirits shall not be considered adulterated if mixed with water only so as not to reduce the strength more than twenty-five degrees below proof in the case of brandy, whisky, or rum, or more than thirty degrees below proof in the case of gin."

It was proved in evidence that Inspector Gourlay asked for and purchased a bottle of brandy at each of the establishments owned by the defendants. At each place he poured the contents of the bottle into three small bottles, and left one small bottle with each of the defendants, sent another to the Government Analyst, and kept the third bottle himself. At each place he asked for brandy, and said he was going to have it analysed by the Government Analyst. At none of the places did he offer to divide the article into three parts, but divided the said article without making the offer. At the establishment of the defendant, Sophia Meyer, the article was sold in the ordinary brandy bottle. The bottle had a gold capsule, and at the top of the bottle was a white label with the words "Old Brandy" printed in blue. Under this label was another label, crescent in shape, with a gilt edge, and three golden stars in the middle of the crescent. Under this was a large white label with a gilt edge. Across the middle of this label were the following words "*Eau de vie très vieille*." Under this label was another small label, and the words "*Eau de vie*. Fine old brandy." A dollar was paid for this bottle of brandy. At the Tai Sing shop the article was also in an ordinary brandy bottle. This bottle also had a gold capsule. A short distance from the top of the bottle was a label, crescent in shape, and in the middle of this label were three golden stars. Under this label was a large white label with the words "Extra superior old brandy." Fifty cents was paid for this bottle of brandy. At the Chung Cheong compradore's shop, the article was also in the ordinary brandy bottle. On this bottle there was also the crescent label and the three golden stars. There was also a large label with the words "Fine old Cognac." Sixty-five cents was paid for this bottle of brandy.

After dealing with several points raised in the case, His Worship said:—

The next question I have to decide is whether the purchaser received the article demanded by him, namely, brandy. This involves an answer to the question—What is brandy? Brandy is a spirit derived from the juice of the grape or from wine. An analyst's opinion as to whether an article is or is not brandy is based on the fact whether the sample contains a sufficient quantity of ethers. In the manufacture of brandy water is always added to it in a greater or less quantity. This is known by the expression "breaking down." Water due to its alkalinity has undoubtedly the effect of reducing such ether value. The result of analysis as to the ether value of a brandy is given in so many grammes of ethers per 100 litres of absolute alcohol present. Mr. Browne, Government Analyst, who was called as a witness for the prosecution, is of opinion that genuine brandy does not contain less than 80 grammes of ethers. The result of his analysis in the present three cases is as follows: Mrs. Meyer's brandy 21.16 grammes of ethers, Tai Sing's brandy 12.62 grammes, and Chung Cheong's brandy 40.48 grammes.

The question as to the amount of influence which water exercises in reducing the ether value of brandy is a matter of great controversy amongst analysts. Mr. Browne was of opinion that the alkali in water did not have a very serious effect on the ethers. He gave the result of certain experiments carried out by him. These experiments were made with two kinds of water, namely, Pokfulum water, and well water in which was added twice as much alkaline as there is in Pokfulum water. It was suggested by the

defence that this was not a fair test owing to the slight alkalinity of the water used. The amount of alkaline in Pokfulum water being only a grain in a gallon. On this question the defence called Mr. Spurge, the analyst in A. S. Watson and Co. He did not analyse the brandies, the subject matter of the charge, but he analysed a sample of Watson's A brandy. He stated that it was a cheap brandy, but was guaranteed as the produce of the grape. He distilled two-thirds of the quantity taken and the product of the distillation would contain all the ether and the alcohol. He divided the distillate into two equal parts. One he "broke down" with distilled water and the other with alkaline water. This alkaline water contained 20 grains of carbonate of lime per gallon, which is the normal Kent water. In the distilled water sample he found 91.50 grammes of ether, and in the Kent water sample 65.68 grammes.

After dealing at considerable length with these questions, His Worship said:—

Having regard to the evidence before the Court, I am of opinion that I ought not to fix a higher standard than sixty grammes. The brandies, the subject matter of these three charges, are all very much below the standard which I have fixed.

I therefore convict the three defendants under the Food and Drugs Ordinance, 1896. Each defendant will pay a fine of \$50.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING WEAVING DYEING CO.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in the above company was held on Saturday morning at the offices of the general managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, presided, and there were also present; Sir Paul Chater and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar (members of the consulting committee), Messrs. A. Denison, E. Ormiston, E. Shaw, R. S. Piercy, W. Clarke, Lo Cheung Shui, Ho U Shang, Ming Kee, and Yuen Hop.

The Secretary (Mr. W. M. Fleming) having read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, I propose with your approval to take them as read. The result of the working account for the year shows a profit of \$25,734.62 as against \$23,356.30 for the previous year, the production for 1908/1909 being increased to 12,539 bales, from 7,977 bales in 1907/08. The balance at profit and loss account now stands at \$29,306.51, and your directors recommend that after writing off furniture account, \$3,209.49, the balance, \$26,297.02, be carried forward to the credit of the present year's account. The small stock of yarn unsold on 31st July has now been disposed of at above the taking-over price. The stock of cotton was valued at a safe figure and the cotton market has since advanced. In view of the activity in the yarn market in Shanghai, the result of the year's working must be considered as disappointing, but it must be remembered that the local market has by no means advanced *pari passu* with the rise in the north. We have again experienced considerable difficulty in securing an adequate supply of labour, and there has also been a very noticeable falling off in the physical condition of those seeking employment, so much so that it was found necessary to increase the scale of wages by about 12% in order to attract a better class of workpeople. An improvement has been observed during the last two months and the mill is now in full working. The general managers, finding that extra European supervision was absolutely necessary for efficient working, engaged a competent spinning master in Lancashire and he arrived in the Colony in April last. I regret to say the health of the Mill Manager, Mr. Alfred Shaw, broke down in the Spring to such an extent that he had to be sent to Europe on a year's sick leave, and during his absence Mr. P. S. Jameson has been acting as Mill Manager. The increase in European supervision has already proved undoubtedly efficacious in improving our production. Arrangements have been made by which the number of local buyers is increased, and steps have also been taken to increase the

direct business with the nearer coast ports, such as Swatow, Amoy and Foochow. The immediate outlook cannot be considered as favourable, the abnormally high price of the raw material making it extremely difficult to effect sales of yarn at profit, while it is necessary to buy cotton in order to secure supplies to keep the mill running. Before asking you to pass the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions concerning them.

There being no questions, the report was adopted on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by SIR PAUL CHATER.

Mr. ORMISTON moved and Mr. A. DENISON seconded the motion that Sir Paul Chater and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar be re-elected to the consulting committee.

Mr. Hutton Potts was re-elected auditor on the motion of Mr. LO SHEUNG SHUI, seconded by Mr. PIERCY.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance.

WILLIAM POWELL AND COMPANY.

The eighth ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the company's office on Saturday. Mr. G. C. Moxon presided and there were also present: Messrs E. H. Hinds, P. H. Smith, J. M. Wong, Mauricio and Mr. Harry Eyre (Manager).

The notice convening the meeting having been read.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen,—I will with your permission follow the usual custom and take the reports and accounts now before you as read. The balance of profit at credit of working account as you will see is \$8,235.56 against \$2,021.64 last year, which, I think, in view of the depressed state of business and the huge rent we now have to pay may be considered fairly satisfactory. Your board would have greatly liked to recommend a dividend, but after much consideration they have decided it wiser not to do so, having in mind the possibility of new competition, the general dullness that seems to have become chronic, and the desirability of keeping down the indebtedness to the company's bankers. It is therefore recommended that \$580.86 should be written off furniture and fixtures and to carry the balance forward. I would here point out that nothing has been written off this item since 1905, and as a large portion of our present fittings may not be suitable for new premises we consider this a favourable opportunity to make provision for same. A revival in the trade of the Colony has been looked for this year, but I regret to say that in common with other local businesses of our character hopes have not materialized. However, shareholders have this satisfaction: they have a clean stock and up-to-date, all book debts as appearing in the account are good, and there is still a balance of old stock left valued at \$15,000, which will be gradually realized. So far as working expenses are concerned, I am of the opinion they have been reduced to the minimum compatible with efficiency and no stone is left unturned to keep up sales. Our chief trouble is that we are saddled with an old lease which compels us to pay rent out of all proportion to our turnover and is a severe handicap. This will cease about eighteen months hence, and the question of a saving in this direction is having the very earnest consideration of your board. We undoubtedly get our full share of such business as is going, and in view of the present sound condition of the company I see not reason why we should not prosper and ere long be in a position to resume the payment of regular dividends. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall have pleasure in replying to any questions that you may wish to the best of my ability.

There being no questions, the report was adopted on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. WONG.

Mr. WONG proposed the re-election of Messrs. Hinds and Moxon as directors. Mr. MAURICIO seconded the motion was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. HINDS, seconded by Mr. E. E. Mr. H. Percy Smith was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN That is all the business, gentlemen.

The Report was as follows:—

The directors beg to submit to shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the year ending 30th June, 1909.

The profit for the year, including the sum of \$3.95 brought forward from last account and after allowing for bad and doubtful debts, amounts to \$6,372.19, and your Directors recommend that this amount should be absorbed by writing off fixtures and fittings \$5,590.86 and carrying forward the balance, \$782.03.

It will be noted that of the stock which was written off when the capital was reduced, there is on hand an amount estimated to be worth \$15,000.00.

Directors.—Messrs. E. H. Hinds and G. C. Moxon, the retiring directors, are eligible for re-election.

Auditor.—The annexed accounts have been audited by Mr. H. Percy Smith, who offers himself for re-election.

G. C. Moxon,
Chairman

Hongkong, September 1st, 1909.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT For the year ending 30th June, 1909.

Dr.	
To directors' and auditor's fees	\$1,550.00
To bad and doubtful debts	426.62
To balance	6,372.89
	\$8,349.51
Cr.	
By balance from last account	\$3.95
By dividend from investments	94.00
By transfer fees	16.00
By balance of working account	8,235.56
	8,345.56
	\$8,349.51

PALANCE SHEET 30TH JUNE, 1909.

LIABILITIES.	
To capital—15,000 shares each fully paid	\$105,000.00
To sundry creditors	15,655.67
To unclaimed dividends	27.80
To Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, overdraft	19,232.76
To old stock as per contra	15,000.00
To profit and loss account	6,372.89
	\$161,289.12
ASSETS.	
By stock on hand (as per manager's certificate)	\$113,017.34
By old stock on hand (estimated value)	15,000.00
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, dividend account	27.80
By sundry debtors	19,440.57
By fixtures and fittings	11,590.86
By investment at cost	980.00
By cash in hand	1,232.55
	\$161,289.12

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

The twenty-sixth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of the Company at noon on Saturday. Mr. H. P. White presided, and there were also present: Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar (Consulting Committee), Mr. J. E. Gomez (secretary), and Messrs. T. F. Hough, W. S. Dupree and Chan Tong.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen,—We will, with your permission, take the report and accounts as read. It is a matter of great regret that we are not able to come before you with a more satisfactory statement, and are not in a position to declare a dividend, but as you are aware the past year has been one of extreme and continued depression, and while cargo has been scarce there has been an ample supply of tonnage to compete for the moderate offerings, and rates suffer accordingly, while working expenses are increased as exchange declines. Reference has been made in the report of accidents to two of the

steamers, and had it not been for these unfortunate occurrences there would have been a moderate profit on the working of the steamers instead of a loss as shown in the accounts. This, and an increase of over 10 per cent. in the price of coal has affected the net earnings of the Company's steamers to a considerable extent, and I regret that at present there are no signs of a possibility of lower prices for fuel in the near future. Turning to the accounts, though there is perhaps but little that needs explanation, I would draw your attention to the item under Exchange Account on the debit side, which shows a very large increase on previous years and is entirely due to the adverse state of coast exchange and to the high rate of discount at which our earnings at the coast ports have had to be remitted. I trust that the proposal of the General Managers and Consulting Committee as to the appropriation of the profit and the transfer of \$36,950.33 from Reserve or Depreciation Account towards the writing down of the values of the Company's properties, will meet with your approval, for though the steamers are maintained in a state of high efficiency it is most necessary that a sum should be put aside each year for depreciation. The new steamer *Haiyang* arrived in October last and has proved excellently adapted for our trade and economical in working. We have endeavoured to dispose of the *Haimun* during the year, and though there have been several enquiries no actual offer has yet been made. The result of the present year's working, so far, shows moderate results, and while we hope to make some slight economies in working, until the trade of China recovers from the over-supply of a year or two ago, and confidence generally is restored, it is difficult to forecast any great improvement in the outlook for shipping in the East. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions that may be asked by shareholders to the best of my ability.

No questions were asked, and the report and accounts were adopted on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. T. F. HOUGH.

On the motion of Mr. HOUGH, seconded by Mr. CHAN TONG, the Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson and Messrs. J. W. C. Bonnar and R. Shewan were re-elected members of the Consulting Committee.

Mr. DUPREE proposed, the CHAIRMAN seconded, and it was agreed that Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. R. Lowe should be re-appointed auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen. I am sorry we have not got a better report, but I hope next year we shall be able to show you something better. Many things may happen between this and then.

THE MERCANTILE BANK'S DIVIDEND.

Mr. E. A. Ormiston, Manager of the Hongkong Branch of the Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., kindly informs us that he is in receipt of telegraphic advice from the London Office of the Bank that an interim dividend of 6 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, will be paid on the A & B shares of the Bank for the past half year to 30th June, 1909.

It has been estimated that the total cost of the Empress Dowager's mausoleum will be Taels 7,224,842; of which figure Taels 5,517,420 will be spent for materials and labour on the mausoleum itself. The balance is for the walls, buildings in which sacrificial worship will be held, and the barracks for troops who will act as guards.

The damage done at the Loochoo Islands by the recent typhoon is officially reported as: "Two lives lost, two domestic animals killed, 353 dwelling and 538 unoccupied houses destroyed, 432 dwellings and 113 unoccupied houses partially demolished, 5,382 dwellings and 2,152 unoccupied houses damaged, two unoccupied houses washed away, 13 vessels carried away and 15 vessels wrecked." The agricultural crops are expected to suffer a decrease by about 20 per cent.

LOCAL SPORT.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

The annual meeting of members of the Hongkong Cricket Club was held at the pavilion on Tuesday, Mr. F. Maitland presiding over a good attendance.

In the absence of Mr. E. A. M. Williams, Mr. Carr acted as Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, the Report and Accounts as presented to members I will take as read. The former shows a very busy season, and we have to congratulate Mr. Richard Hancock on his splendid batting average (103.77) and Mr. H. D. Sharpin on his fine bowling performance (10.17) per wicket. There has been a new departure in making up the averages, your Committee having decided to include League Matches; in fact, they were practically forced to do so from the fact that if they had been omitted as in past seasons, no one would have played the qualifying number of innings under the rules. I am delighted to be able to state that we shall receive cricket and lawn tennis representatives from both Shanghai and Straits Settlements in November next, when I trust we shall witness some keenly contested games, and may victory go to the best sides. The challenges were sent by the Hongkong Cricket Club, as in the past, but I would remark that in choosing the men to do battle for Hongkong, the Selection Committee will draw on the whole Colony, so it behoves all cricketers and lawn tennis players to get into regular practice as early as possible. Besides the Interport Matches it is anticipated that we shall in the coming season arrange a triangular cricket contest between the Navy, Army, and Civilans, and also that the Club will play the full League representatives two test matches. Then we have entered an eleven for the League Competition, so prospects for a busy and interesting season look bright.

Regarding the accounts, I regret very much that there is a small loss on the year's working, but I predict that next year we shall be in a position to repay some of the debentures. An exceptionally large amount has gone into the ground account owing to the heavy wear and tear of last season. Then your Committee have decided that no free teas shall in future be given except to ladies, whom we hope to see in large force at our cricket matches as well as at the lawn tennis tournament. We owe special thanks to Mr. George Grimble and Mr. E. A. M. Williams for their services in arranging the concert recently held, which proved a success, but I am not at the moment in a position to give the exact amount of profits, as a few members have not yet returned the tickets nor paid for them. For these and other reasons, I anticipate a fair surplus in next accounts to redeem some debentures. Before moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

There being no questions, the report was adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. JUPP.

Mr. F. MAITLAND was re-elected president, on the motion of Mr. CARR, seconded by Dr. FORSYTH, and the Committee was constituted as follows: Messrs. F. Maitland (President), W. C. D. Turner, T. E. Pearce, H. R. Mackin, C. A. Carr, H. Hancock, Capt. Garnett, R. A., Capt. Baird (Buffs) and E. C. Oliver, R. N.

An extraordinary general meeting was held immediately afterwards.

Byelaw 12 was altered by the substitution of the word "twenty" for "thirty."

Bye-Law 15 was amended to read:—From 1st October, 1909, all new playing Members not Officers of H.M.'s Navy or Army shall pay an entrance fee of \$20.00. All new playing Military Members shall pay an entrance fee of \$10.00, and all new playing Naval men stationed in the Colony shall also pay an entrance fee of \$10.00. (This resolution does not affect the status of a Naval Subscriber under Bye-law 21.) Another resolution that Bye-Law 22, "Honorary Members or Naval Subscribers" read "Naval Subscribers under Bye-Law 21" and "Honorary Members," was carried.

A resolution to reduce the subscription of non-playing members over ten years' membership from \$15 to \$10 was lost by 10 votes to 18.

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB.

The annual meeting of members of the Kowloon Cricket Club was held on Sept. 29 at the pavilion—Mr. W. Stewart presiding over a good attendance.

The CHAIRMAN, in commenting upon the report and statement of accounts, said the committee were pleased to show such a satisfactory balance sheet, and hoped it would meet with the approval of members. There were certain items which needed explanation. Sundry debtors was rather a large item but this could be attributed to the closing of the books on 31st August which did not allow for that month's accounts to be included in the financial statement. The club had been successful in winning the first tennis held in Hongkong and thanks were due to the Tennis League Committee for having carried through such a successful series of matches. Last year he anticipated that the club opened the season with good prospects but unfortunately after one or two league matches had been played the team went practically to pieces. Whether it was due to lack of practice or bad captaincy he could not say. The hockey section had been handicapped by having players who had not previously played but they hoped to do better this year. He regretted that the club was losing the services of Mr. Shroff as hon. treasurer who had discharged the duties of that office very conscientiously for three years.

A number of questions were asked and satisfactorily answered, and the report and balance sheet was passed.

Mr. H. N. Vody was re-elected president. The names of Messrs Stewart and D. Harvey were submitted for the vice-presidency but the former withdrew and Mr. Harvey was appointed. For the post of captain Mr. J. P. Robinson and Mr. W. F. Brewer were nominated but the former was elected. The other office bearers were: Vice-captain, Mr. Brewer; captain 2nd eleven, Captain Somerville; secretary, Mr. Tang Chee; treasurer, Mr. J. Mead; captain of the hockey team, Mr. C. W. Jeffries; committee—Messrs Goldsmith, D. J. McKenzie, W. Stewart, D. Neilson, F. P. Shroff, Smith, W. Pelling, and W. Weaser.

It was decided on the proposition of Mr. Mead that the financial year close on July 31st instead of August 31st, and it was agreed to vote the secretary an honorarium of \$300 for entertainment purposes.

HONGKONG AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

The third annual meeting of members of the Amateur Athletic Association was held at Dr. Forsyth's office, Alexandra Buildings, on Sept. 29, the Doctor presiding over a fair attendance of members.

The Secretary, Mr. H. L. O. Garrett, read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said he would first congratulate the Association on having financially a successful year. They had practically begun with nothing, had paid a track coolie all the year, got hurdles, etc., and in addition had a credit balance of \$47.50. The meeting last year was successful in a way, but it had been poor in the matter of entries. This season he hoped the meeting would be held later in the year, and that it would be numerically stronger. He did not think it necessary to refer to the *pro tem* champions, but he understood that they would have to look to their laurels this year, as there would be new arrivals on the track. Competition, however, was the best thing they could have in sport. The cross-country runs had been extremely disappointing from everybody's point of view, and especially from his own. Besides being Chairman of Committee and coolie, he had had to lay out the track, and show every competitor the way. He thought that instead of having monthly meetings this season they should have a long distance run of eight, ten or eighteen miles. There would then be no misunderstanding about the road, because the man who got to the place first would win, and it would be his own lookout whether he chose to go by road or over hills. A man could train for such a meeting

and be done with it, instead of having to keep in form for monthly events. The speaker concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts.

Dr. F. H. Kew seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Chairman, Dr. C. Forsyth; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. R. Sutherland; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. L. O. Garrett; Committee, Messrs. F. Lamert, J. H. Mead, F. G. Carroll, A. S. Kempthorne, Mr. Ennis (Buffs), Dr. F. H. Kew and Rev. Maundrell (Navy).

It was decided to raise the subscription to \$2; to hold a sports' meeting on December 18th; and to hold a long-distance race from Aberdeen Dock to the Cricket Ground on January 22nd.

This was all the business.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

The Hongkong Football Club held its annual meeting last night at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. Ltd. Mr. Frank Browne presided over a large attendance of members.

The CHAIRMAN said the Club was to be congratulated on attaining a quite respectable age, especially when the life of many clubs was so brief. The last season might have been better; they were unfortunate in getting knocked out for the shield, but last year they had less players than ever before. He regretted that they were unable to send a team to Shanghai. Turning to the balance sheet he observed that the balance reported was the highest they had yet had, and there had been a substantial decrease in the cost of the upkeep of the ground. The report and accounts were adopted.

The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson was re-elected president. Mr. H. Totton was elected hon. secretary in place of Mr. H. L. O. Garrett retired, who was thanked by the chairman for past services. Mr. F. G. Carroll was elected hon. treasurer, Mr. W. M. Weston Association Captain, Mr. G. D. McIlwraith, Rugby Captain, (in place of Mr. H. G. C. Bailey retired), and Messrs. F. Browne, H. L. O. Garrett, P. W. Goldring, H. W. Lester, E. L. Shaw and H. Hunter, members of committee.

SHOOTING AFFAIR NEAR CANTON.

On Sunday last, a party of sportsmen from the Shamshien went out shooting, about nine miles from Canton, in a country named Tailong, and it is reported that a farmer whilst at work in a field was accidentally shot by one of the foreigners. The man's hurt was at once attended to, and a dollar as a solatium settled the matter. But when the man went back to his village his friends rebuked him for accepting so small an amount as compensation, and they came in a body toward the shooting party. As is usual in such cases a mob assembled and adopted a menacing attitude, and had it not been for the intervention of railway people, the sportsmen might have stood in some peril. The Chinese authorities intervened, and the man was taken to Canton hospital, where he is doing very well. The wound, which is on the face, is not of a serious nature, and it is hoped the matter will be amicably settled to the satisfaction of all the parties.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

A KOBE LIBEL ACTION.

Tokyo, September 30th.

Judgment has been delivered in the suit for libel which has been occupying the Japanese Court at Kobe for many months, the plaintiff being Mr. W. T. R. Preston, until lately Canadian Trade Commissioner in Japan. He brought action against Mr. Robert Young, proprietor and editor of the *Japan Chronicle*, claiming Yen 20,000 for alleged libel, contained in an article which had appeared in a Canadian paper and which was reproduced in the defendant's newspaper.

The Court's judgment was in favour of the plaintiff, and assessed the damages at Yen 2,000. The Court also ordered the publication of an apology.

[A similar action was sometime ago heard in the Yokohama Court against the *Japan Daily Herald* with a like result, but the damages, if we recollect aright, were assessed at Yen 5,000.]

COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS:—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 1st October:—The quotation of the market is nearly the same as when last reported.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$5.10	to	\$5.15
" Round, Good quality ...	5.10	to	5.15
" Long	5.15	to	5.20
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	5.05	to	5.10
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	5.25	to	5.30
" White,	5.35	to	5.40
" Fine Cargo	5.50	to	5.55

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, Sept. 30th.—We beg to continue our advice of the 15th inst., since when the movements in our various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Milwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian
Stocks on the 15th Sept., 1909—1,087 1/2	1,355	1,246	472	
Sept., 20th Imports per <i>Kamung</i> —	175	55		
" 28th " " <i>G. Apear</i> —	675	290		
" 29th " " <i>Himalaya</i> 104	100		129	

	1,791 1/2	2,805	1,591	604
Less Exports to Shanghai ..		356	162	
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight ..	143	487	214	140

Estimated Stocks this day .. 1,648 1/2 1,902 1,215 461

Bengal.—Good deliveries and the rise in China Opium received from the north has kept our market active with advance in prices to \$1,115, for Old Patna, \$1,140 for New and \$1,100 for Benares.

Milwa.—The demand has been moderate only at the following rates:—New \$1,165/10; 2 years \$1,200/1,225; 3/4 years \$1,250; Older \$1,275/1,300.

Persian.—Unchanged.

HONGKONG, September 29th.

Quotations are:—

Milwa New	\$1,150/1,180	per picul.
Milwa Old	\$1,190/1,220	do.
Milwa Older	\$1,230/1,260	do.
Milwa Very Old	\$1,270/1,300	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$1,100/1,140	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$1,000/1,050	do.
Patna New	\$1,145	per chest.
Patna Old	\$1,120	do.
Benares New	\$1,100	do.
Benares Old	\$1,100	do.

YARN.

HONGKONG—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 1st Oct., states:—The firm feeling existing last fortnight has been well maintained throughout the interval. Dealers, after waiting for a considerable time in hopes of forcing the hands of holders, now seem to have accepted the situation and a good business has been put through as noted as foot. Buyers have freely responded to the demands of holders and a farther advance of \$1 to \$2 per bale has been established on all desirable spinings. The enquiry has been general and No. 10s, as usual, have been heavily dealt in, comprising more than a moiety of the settlements. No. 12s and 16s are in short supply, and favourite spinings would be taken at an advance on present prices. No. 20s continue unchanged. Receipts during the fortnight have been small, and with large off-takes the estimate of stocks shows a considerable decrease on last figures. For the last 2 or 3 days business has again become quiet, but holders are steady and the tone of the market at the close is one of considerable firmness. Bombay continues strong. The monsoon conditions in India are so far satisfactory. With the exception of a small area, the rains have been equally well distributed and crops all over the country are flourishing. Sales of the interval aggregate 7,018 bales, arrivals amount to 4,442 bales, unsold stock estimated at 20,000, and uncleared yarn in second hands at 33,000 bales. Local manufacture:—No business is reported. At the twelfth annual general meeting of shareholders of the local mill held here last week no dividend was declared on

the working of the last twelve months. Japanese Yarn:—Market lifeless. Raw Cotton:—No stock or fresh receipts of both Indian and China descriptions, and prices are nominal. Indian \$32 to \$37, and China \$34 to \$38. Exchange on India has remained steady in sympathy with silver and closes to-day at Rs 12½ for T/T, and Rs. 13½ for Post. On Shanghai 75 and on Japan 85½. The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 25th ultimo, viz:—Indian:—There has been a quiet general enquiry and a fair business has been effected. Total sales 5,500 bales, with an estimated stock of 65,500 bales. Japanese:—Holders have made a slight concession to induce business, and about 2,000 bales changed hands at Tls. 102 to Tls. 108½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 115½ to Tls. 119 for No. 20s. Local:—About 2,000 bales No. 14s and 16s have been sold by the mills at Tls. 102 and Tls. 105, respectively.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai, 24th Sept., 1909, state:—There are still orders in the market from Manchuria for American goods, but it is difficult to get any adequate advance in prices. It is, in fact, almost impossible to maintain former rates owing to the eagerness of some weak holders to realise, and this with the present replacing cost five to six mace a piece over what some are willing to sell at. The few Importers who hold stocks are very firm and quote considerably higher prices than those now current. The River trade is not very active, although the crops are now in a very promising state. The weather has continued abnormally hot, but this should terminate with the Equinoctial gales that are now on. The Manchester market is now receiving some attention from Indian buyers, and with the advance in Cotton is more than ever out of reach of buyers here, for plain goods, but a small business in Fancies seems to be still practicable. The Liverpool market has responded to the rise in America and is now 7 12d for "spot" Middling, while 6 98d was quoted yesterday for September, and 6 78d for December/January. There is also a slight rise in Egyptian 9 1½. The Export of Plain Cottons for the first fortnight this month was only 10,000,000 yards, quite a welcome falling off. The prices quoted by New York at which business could be done, on the basis really of 12s. 0½d. for standard goods, really are quite out of the question, being 10 to 12% over rates ruling here. Cotton has advance to 12.95 cents for October, and 13 cents for "spot." The following interesting notes have been kindly given to us concerning the 1908/1909 Crop:—Commercial Crop—13,825,457 bales, at September, 1908, Middling spot was 5.23d. 31st August, 1909, Middling spot was 5.23d. The highest point touched was 6.92d. (in July), and the lowest 4.80d, the average for the season being 5.50d. The Yarn market is strong and active, though we understand some forced sales at the close have put a somewhat different complexion on it—that is, so far as Indian spinings are concerned. Japanese are meeting with a good enquiry from Hankow and are quite firm. Local Yarns are holding their own with the best of them. There is some activity in the Native Cotton market, and sales from stock or for October delivery are being made at rather fancy prices. In the private market we cannot gather that there is anything of importance going on from first hands. In a few isolated cases we hear of a parcel of Manchester goods being given away at a sacrificial price just to keep the chop going. We fear that sort of selling has a good deal to do with the maintenance of the present low range of prices. In American makes not even so much is reported from first hands, but resales continue on about the same lines as last week, only on a rather smaller scale. There is not much change in prices. Standard weights are slightly easier, 3 yard goods about the same and light weights rather firmer. Cotton Flannels are unchanged. The Auctions on the whole have shown better results, no doubt on account of its being possible to take delivery after the settling day. Grey Shirtings have done better for all weights, but for the Bleached goods 64-reeds were the only ones to maintain prices throughout, there being some irregularity with the higher grades. T-Cloths and Jeans were steady to firm, especially the latter. Turkey Reds are showing fairly steady to firm prices as a rule. Fast Black Cotton Italian have been very irregular, though some chop have shown considerable improvement. Woollen have again exhibited some firmness, which perhaps has been a little more evenly distributed this week.

COAL

HONGKONG, August, 20th.—The arrivals of coal since the 10th inst. amounted to 29,500 tons of Japanese. The coal expected is 40,850 tons Japanese, 5,200 tons Hongkong, and 8,600 tons North China. Quotations according to Messrs. Hughes and Hough's circular are as follows:—

Cardiff.....\$21.00 to 22.50 ex-godown, nominal.
Australian...\$10.50 to 12.50 ex-godown, nominal.
Yubari Lump...\$12.00 Nominal.
Miki Lump...\$10.50 to 11.00 ex-ship, nominal.
Moji Lump.....\$7.75 to \$9.50 ex-ship, steady.
Moji Unscreend \$6.00 to \$8.00 ex-ship, steady.
Akaike Lump...\$8.75 to \$9.00 ex-ship, steady.
Labuan Lump...\$9.00 ex-ship sellers.

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 1st October, 1909.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	piece	\$1.95	—
7 lbs.	"	2.30 to 2.55	—
8.4 lbs.	"	3.10 to 4.25	—
10 lbs.	"	4.35 to 5.70	—
White Shirtings—54/56 reed ..	"	2.90 to 3.75	—
58/60 ..	"	4.20 to 5.80	—
64/66 ..	"	6.20 to 7.40	—
Fine.....	"	7.45 to 9.95	—
Book-folds ..	"	6.25 to 6.90	—
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	"	0.75 to 2.00	—

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y ..	"	2.20 to 2.30	—
7 lbs.	"	2.35 to 2.45	—
6 lbs. "Mexicans," ..	"	—	—
7 lbs.	"	2.80 to 4.05	—
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..	"	3.60 to 4.35	—
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs.)	"	4.65 to 6.05	—

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 6 lbs. piece	"	1.82 to 5.10	—
Brocades—Dyed	yard	0.11 to 0.15	—
Chinese—Assorted	"	0.08 to 0.35	—
Velvets—Black, 22 in.,	"	0.28 to 0.55	—
Velveteens—18 in.,	"	0.24 to 0.28	—
Handkerchiefs—Imitation } ilk per dozen }	"	0.50 to 5.00	—

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	yard	0.70 to 2.00	—
German,	"	2.00	—
Habit, Medium & Broad Sloths ..	"	1.25 to 3.00	—
Long Ells—Scurlet, 7-9 lbs. piece	"	7.80 to 9.40	—
Assorted	"	7.90 to 9.40	—
Camlets—Assorted	"	—	—
WHEATEN FLOUR—			
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches)	"	14.00 to 21.00	—
Assorted	"	—	—
Orleans—Plain	"	9.00 to 12.00	—
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	lbs.	0.60 to 1.50	—

RAW COTTON—

Bombay	picul	\$29.00 to \$33.00	—
Bengal (New), Rangoon	"	29.00 to 32.00	—
and Dacca	"	30.00 to 34.00	—
Shanghai and Japanese ..	"	30.00 to 34.00	—
Tungchow and Ningpo ..	"	30.00 to 34.00	—

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	picul	\$ 4.05	—
Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.) ..	"	4.00	—
Swedish Bar	"	4.10	—
Small Round Rod	"	4.50	—
Hoop, ½ to 1½ in.,	"	5.60	—
Wire, 16/25 oz.,	"	9.50	—
Old Wire Rope	"	3.00	—
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	"	9.40	—
Australian	"	9.20	—
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz.	"	39.50	—
Vivian's, 16/32 oz., ..	"	39.50	—
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	"	39.50	—
Tin,	"	90.00	—
Tin-Plates,	box	7.50	—
Steel	cwt. case	—	—

MISCELLANEOUS—

Quicksilver,	picul	171.50	—
Window Glass,	box	5.40	—
Kerosene Oil,	case	—	—
Saltpetre, No. 1	picul	\$11.90 to 12.10	—
Do. No. 2	"	10.90 to 11.20	—
Do. No. 3	"	9.50 to 10.40	—
Dayton, per bag of 50 lbs.	gross	\$2.68	—
Brown Bear	"	2.65	—
Choice	"	2.65	—
White Lily	"	2.65	—
White Fawn	"	2.64	—
Morion	"	2.65	—
Cow	"	2.64	—
Private Brands	"	2.64	—

EXPORTS:—

CAMPBOR

HONGKONG, 1st October:—The above market is at a standstill and prices remain as last quoted.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORT.

Per M. M. steamer *Polynesian*, sailed on 28th Sept. 1909. For Marseilles—190 bales raw silk, 48 cases hats, 100 bales hemp, 100 bales cassia, 100 bales waste silk, 14 cases feathers, 3 cases embroideries, 3 cases divers, 32 cases effects, 130 rolls mats. For Lyons—105 bales raw silk. For Havre—1 case embroideries, 20 cases cigars, 10 cases porcelain. For Beyrouth—4 cases embroideries. For Rotterdam—2 cases cigars. For Mars./Diego Suarez—47 cases provisions. For Tanger—25 cases tea.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 1st October, 1909.—The local stocks have retroceded to a state of quiescence, and we have but very little business to report. The activity in the Rubber market, however, continues, and a fair business has been transacted at gradually rising prices, the market still closing firm with an upward tendency. Exchange on London closes at 1/9 T/T and on Shanghai at 75.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, in the early part of the week sales were effected at 995, but with further sellers the rate again fell to 990 at which some few shares changed hands. The market closes with buyers at the lower rate. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue firm and after some further small sales at 84½, close with buyers. We have no other business or changes to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's continue in demand at 360, and a higher rate would be paid for small lots; shares, however, do not appear to be available and higher rates may be reasonably looked for. Chinas are a dead letter with sellers at 114, and probable buyers at 113½.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao, continue neglected and the rate has fallen to 31½ sellers without business. Shells have declined in London to 69/ and remain without local business. Other stocks under this heading call for no comment.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have found some small buyers at 146, and the market closes steady at that rate. Luzons are still on offer at 23 without any business to report.

MINING.—Rauhs remain neglected with sellers at 8½, and possibly 8½ would be accepted. Langkats continue a weak market in the North, and after sales during the week at 840, down to 825 for December, close at 800 cash. Chinese Engineerings are in demand in the North at 17½.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have changed hands at 56 and 55 closing steady at the former rate. Kowloon Wharfs have found further buyers at 61 and 60, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Shanghai Docks continue quiet at 77, Hongkew Wharfs have declined to 140 in the North.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been the medium of a fair investing business at 104, at which rate the market closes steady. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos are quoted in the North by telegraph at 137, and Soychees at 470. Internationals have declined to 89, and Laon Kung Mows to 112, the last two quotations being taken from the latest Shanghai circulars. Hongkong Cottons have been placed during the week at 6½.

RUBBERS.—The market has been lively and a fair business has been put through at advanced rates. The sales during the week include the following: Sungie Chohs at 17/ prem., Ragalas at from \$325 to \$330, Balgownies at from \$365 to 71. Golcondas from £2 15 to £2

18 9 Ledburys from £2 10 to £2 12 6. Shelfords at 36/ and 37/, and Kuala Lumpurs at 65/.

MISCELLANEOUS—With the exception of sales of Dairys at 18, Cements at 8½ ex div., and China Lights at 6.10, we have no business to report. China Borneos are quieter at 13 with sellers, and Union Water Boats at 10½. With the exceptions of Hongkong Gas and Asbestos shares there are no buyers under this heading.

Quotations are as follows:—

STOCKS	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$890, sales & buy.
National B. of China	£6	\$292.10
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	12/6d.	\$65, buyers
China-Borneo Co.....	\$12	\$10, buyers
China Light & P. Co....	\$10	\$13, sellers
China Provident	\$1	\$6 10, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	\$9.60, sellers
Hongkong C. S. Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 137
International	Tls. 75	\$6½, sales
Laou Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 92
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 113
Dairy Farm Co.....	~ \$6	Tls. 470
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$18, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$50	
New Amoy Dock ...	\$6½	\$60, buyers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	\$56
S'hai & H. Wharf...	Tls. 100	\$9, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo...	\$25	Tls. 77
G. Island Cement Co	\$10	Tls. 140
Hongkong & C. Gas...	\$10	\$11, sellers
Hongkong Electric...	\$10	\$8½, x.d. al. & sel.
Hongkong Hotel Co. }	\$50	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.....	\$25	\$20½, sellers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$72½
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$43½
China Fire	\$20	\$188, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$23, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	
North China	£5	\$180
Union	\$10	\$114, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$92, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$300, buyers
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$42½, sale & buy.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$230½
Shanghai Land.....	Tls. 50	
WestPoint Building	\$50	
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$101, sales
Raub	18/10d.	\$9½, sellers
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$14, sellers
Philippine Co., Ltd.	\$1	\$1.40, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$9, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	
Robinson Piano Co. ...	\$50	\$146, sales
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila...	\$25	\$23, seller
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$50, sellers
H., Canton & M. ...	\$15	
Indo-China S. N. Co.	£5	\$8½, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	£1	\$19, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	70/-
South China M. Post...	\$25	\$26
Steam Laundry Co....	\$5	\$15, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co....	\$10	\$24
Wm. Powell, Ltd. ...	\$7	\$5½, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$4, seller
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$5, sellers
Weissmann, Ltd.	\$100	\$8, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$150
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$12½, buyers
Rubbers—		
Castlefields, fully p.	—	\$10
Itnggis	—	\$300
Anglo-Malays	—	\$10½, sales & sel.
Shelfords	—	
Balgownies	—	

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATION.

23rd September, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,025
National of China...	£6	\$51
Russo-Chinese ...	R187½	Tls. 125
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'tn	\$100	\$840, sales
North-China	£5	Tls. 115
Yangtze Assocn. ...	\$60	\$232
Canton	\$50	\$180, sellers
Hongkong Fire....	\$50	\$355, buyers
China Fire.....	\$20	\$115, sellers
Shipping:—		
Indo - China { pref. }	£5	Tls. 44, sellers
Shell Trans. { ord. }	£1	69/3
S'hai 'Tug & { pref. }	£10	£9.10.0
Lighter ... { ord. }	T50	Tls. 43, sellers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 52½, buyers
Kochien Transportation & To Boat	T50	Tls. 45
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Erg...	T100	Tls. 50, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$50	
S. & H'kew Wharf...	T100	Tls. 77½, buyers
H. K'loon W. & G...	\$50	\$60½, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 147, sales
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation...	T50	\$60, buyers
China Refining.....	\$100	Tls. 200, sales
Mining:—		
Raub Australian ...	£1	Tls. 340, sales
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	\$147½
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment...	T50	Tls. 7½, sellers
H'kong Investment	\$100	Tls. 120, sales
Humphreys' Estate	T10	\$106, buyers
Weiheiwei.....	T20	\$9½, sellers
China	T50	Tls. 9
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 50
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 106, sales
Internationals	T75	Tls. 138, sales
Laou Kung Mow ...	T100	Tls. 89, buyers
Soy Chees	T50	Tls. 112, sellers
H.C.S.W.D.Co., Ltd.	\$10	Tls. 112, sellers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 475, sales
Major Brothers.....	T50	Tls. 7½, sellers
Shanghai Ice	T25	
China Flour Mill...	T50	Tls. 112, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 89, buyers
Green Is. Cement...	\$10	Tls. 42½, buyers
Shanghai Cotton ...	T50	Tls. 35, buyers
Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat.....	Gs. 100	\$8½
Shanghai - Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 70, sellers
Dominion Rubbers...	T6	
S'hai Waterworks...	£20	Tls. 115, sales
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	\$100	Tls. 13½, sellers
A. Butler Cement, Tile Works	T50	Tls. 425, sales
Kalumpung Rubber	T50	\$82½, buyers
S. R. ber Estates ...	T100	
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	£1	Tls. 23½, sales
Eastern Fibre	£10	Tls. 235, buyers
Shanghai Electric Construction.....	£10	Tls. 280, buyers
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz.....	\$20	Tls. 16, buyers
A. Llewellyn.....	\$60	Tls. 10
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	
Central Ordinary ...	\$15	
Central Founders...	\$15	
S. Moutrie & Co....	\$50	
Weeks & Co.	\$20	
Astor House Hotel	\$25	
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	
Dunning & Co.	\$50	
S'hai Horse Bazar...	T50	
S'hai Mercury	T50	
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	
China Im. & Ex. Lumber	T100	
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	
Dallas Horse Repository	T50	
China Printing Co.	T50	

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their Share Report for the week ending Sept. 23rd state:—Owing to the Settlement having taken place today, the 24th, very few shares have changed hands this week, business being practically confined to the actual clearing of past transactions. The feature of the week has been the heavy decline in Langkats. The T.T. rate on London on the 23rd was 2/4. Banks.—H. & S. Banks. No business reported. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—No business reported. Sugars.—Peraks changed hands on the 21st and 23rd at Tls. 330 September and Tls. 340 cash. Mining.—Nothing reported. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Business was reported on the 15th at Tls. 150/148½ September. On the 18th, 20th and 21st at Tls. 148 September. On the 22nd at Tls. 147½/147 September. On the 23rd at Tls. 145 December. Yangtze Wharves. A sale was reported on the 17th at Tls. 190. Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. On the 20th a transaction took place at Tls. 78 September, and on the 21st at Tls. 78 December. Lands.—Shanghai Lands. The only sale reported was on the 22nd at Tls. 120. Plantations.—Telongs. On the 17th a sale took place at Tls. 16½ for September. On the 20th at Tls. 15½. On the 21st at Tls. 16, and on the 22nd at Tls. 16 cash and Tls. 16½ December. Senawang. Sales were reported on the 20th and 21st at Tls. 280 September. Kalumpungs. The only business done was on the 20th at Tls. 227½. Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco. Shares changed hands on the 17th at Tls. 115 September; 117½, 118 and 120 December. On the 18th at Tls. 119½ September and Tls. 120 December. On the 20th at Tls. 120-122½ September. On the 21st at Tls. 127½-130 September and Tls. 128 December. On the 22nd at Tls. 115 cash. On the 23rd at Tls. 112½ and Tls. 110 December. Closing with sellers at Tls. 115 cash. Cottons.—Ewos. Business was done on the 17th at Tls. 137 September. On the 18th at Tls. 136 September. On the 20th at Tls. 141 December and on the 21st at Tls. 138 September and Tls. 142 December. On the 22nd at Tls. 138½ September, Tls. 142½ and Tls. 142 December. On the 23rd at Tls. 138 cash. Laou-Kung-Mows. Sales took place on the 18th and 20th at Tls. 110½ September, on the 21st at Tls. 111 September and on the 22nd at Tls. 112 September. Internationals changed hands on the 20th at Tls. 88 September, closing with buyers at Tls. 89 cash and Tls. 92 sales for December. Soy-Chees were sold on the 18th at Tls. 475 for cash. There are sellers for December at Tls. 495. Industrial.—Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. The market opened on the 17th at Tls. 900 September, Tls. 920 December, and on the 18th business was done at Tls. 909-910 December and Tls. 890 September. On the 20th at Tls. 910 September. On the 23rd at Tls. 870 September and Tls. 865 for December, closing with sellers at Tls. 875 cash and Tls. 890 December. Miscellaneous.—No business reported. Loans and Debentures.—Nothing done.

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, October 1st.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9 ½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9 ½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9 ¾
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 ¾
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9 ½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	220 ½
Credits 4 months' sight	224 ½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	179
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42 ½
Credits, 60 days' sight	43 ½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131 ½
Bank, on demand	131 ½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131 ½
Bank on demand	131 ½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	75
Private, 30 days' sight	75 ½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	85 ½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	86 ½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	74 ½
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	105 ½
ON HAI PHONG.—	
On demand	8 ½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	8 ½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	87 ½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.40
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$59.80
BAR SILVER per oz	23 ½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 1st October.—There is a slightly better demand for tonnage from the North, but not much doing from the Southern ports. From Saigon to this, 6 cents last; to Philippines, 24 cents for 25,000 piculs and 21 cents for 30,000 piculs; to Java, 20 cents last. From Newchwang to Canton, several charters have been put through at 24 to 26 cents, the last named being the rate now demanded by owners. Coal freights are steady. From Moji to this, \$1.70 last; Wakamatsu to Hongkong, \$1.90; Canton, \$2.45. From Honggay to Canton, \$1.60; Hongkong, \$1.50.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September:— ARRIVALS.

24, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
25, Derfflinger, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
25, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
25, Luchow, British str., from Wakamatsu.
25, Nord, Nor. str., from Samarang.
25, Siberia, American str., from San Francisco.
26, Belgravia, German str., from Singapore.
26, Chinhua, British str., from Shanghai.
26, Fooshing, Br. str., from Taku Bar.
26, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
26, Knivsberg, German str., from Haiphong.
26, Petchaburi, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
26, Pheumpenh, British str., from Saigon.
26, Polynesian, French str., from Yokohama.
26, Rygja, Nor. str., from Portland.
26, Suisang, British str., from Swatow.
26, Unda, British str., from Singapore.
26, Zweena, British str., from Newchwang.
27, Choshun Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
27, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
27, Kaifuku Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
27, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
27, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
27, Shansi, British str., from Wakamatsu.
27, Suverie, British str., from Manila.
27, Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.
27, Tocoma Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
27, Triumph, German str., from Swatow.
27, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
28, Benalder, British str., from Singapore.
28, Ghazee, Brit. str., from Liverpool.
28, Gregory Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
28, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
28, Helene, German str., from Swatow.
28, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
28, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
28, Mandasan Maru, Japanese str., for Miike.
28, Pongtong, German str., from Bangkok.
28, Rajah, German str., from Bangkok.
28, Simongan, Dutch str., from Tegal.
28, Vorwärts, German str., from Haiphong.
29, Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.
29, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
29, Drufar, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
29, Himalaya, British str., from Bombay.
29, Japan, British str., from Moji.
29, Kiang Ching, Chi. str., from Chinkiang.
29, Paklat, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
29, Soshu Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
29, Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
30, Bourban, French str., from Saigon.
30, Flintshire, British str., from Shanghai.
30, Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.
30, Hongbee, British str., from Penang.
30, Jibodas, Dutch str., from Sourabaya.
30, Totomi Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
30, Tydeus, British str., from Shanghai.
30, Victoria, Swedish str., from Haiphong.
30, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.

September:— DEPARTURES.

25, Amara, British str., for Honggay.
25, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.
25, Empress of India, Br. str., for Shanghai.
25, Feiching, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
25, Haiching, British str., for Amoy.
25, Helene, German str., for Swatow.
25, Huichow, British str., for Tientsin.
25, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
25, Phu Yen, French str., for Honggay.
25, Somali, British str., for Shanghai.
25, Tranquebar, Danish str., for Shanghai.
25, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
26, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
26, Derfflinger, German str., for Europe, &c.
26, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.

26, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
26, Hunan, British str., for Hoihow.
26, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.
26, Monmouthshire, Br. str., for Shanghai.
26, Nippon, Austrian str., for Singapore.
26, Shibetoro Maru, Japanese str., for Java.
27, Choioing, German str., for Bangkok.
27, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
28, Belgravia, German str., for Shanghai.
28, Chihli, British str., for Cebu.
28, Chipshing, British str., for Chefoo.
28, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
28, Knivsberg, German str., for Pakhoi.
28, Kumsang, British str., for Singapore.
28, Kweiyang, British str., for Tsingtau.
28, Polynesian, French str., for Europe, &c.
28, Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.
28, Tango Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
28, Tean, British str., for Manila.
28, Thordia, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
28, Unda, British str., for Shanghai.
28, Yatshing, British str., for Shanghai.
28, Zweena, British str., for Singapore.
29, Benalder, British str., for Nagasaki.
29, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
29, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
29, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
29, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
30, Chinhua, British str., for Shanghai.
30, Choshun Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
30, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.
30, Ghazee, British str., for Shanghai.
30, Helene, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
30, Himalaya, British str., for Shanghai.
30, Kumano Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
30, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
30, Ningpo, British str., for Hoihow.
30, Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
30, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Messrs Coffin and Wonet.
Per *Chinhua*, from Shanghai, Lieut. Kessim and Mr L. Leavy.
Per *Kwangtah*, from Shanghai, Messrs H. T. Liang and Peter Says.
Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Moran and Miss Moran.
Per *Petchaburi*, from Hoihow, Messrs H. Edwards and F. Lowton.
Per *Chenan*, from Shanghai, Messrs Hall, Blan, Henning, Law and Jackson.
Per *Japan*, from Japan, &c., Mrs M. Irving and 2 children, and Mr G. B. Norris.
Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Messrs G. F. Ross, E. Pona, J. B. Fernandez and A. Maneru.
Per *Gregory Apear* from Calcutta, &c., for Hongkong, Mr Joseph; for Yokohama, Mr S. Shout.
Per *Polynesian*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr Belathegouguli; from Shanghai, Mrs E. Gaston, Mrs Thadie, Mrs Shen, Messrs Mounsey, Remy, Romienz and Schatzerb.
Per *Kumano Maru*, from Japan, &c., Mr and Mrs R. Coates and 2 infants, Mr and Mrs T. Hayashi and 4 children, Major and Mrs C. H. Grace, Mrs M. Bisney, Mrs M. Suzuki, Lieut. V. Kirwan, Rev. A. Thornhill, Messrs H. Lester and H. Gomer.
Per *Hitachi Maru*, from Japan, &c., Mr and Mrs G. D. Poli, Mr and Mrs A. Nilsson, Mr and Mrs W. Schultz, Mr and Mrs L. Pinkus, Mrs H. Rodman, Lieut. A. Chapman, Lieut. G. Shannon, Rev. C. H. Hickling, Messrs C. C. Hickling and B. M. Castro.
Per *Yawata Maru*, from Melbourne, &c., Mr and Mrs C. H. Littler, Mr and Mrs F. Stahl and child, Misses B. Graham, E. Haines, P. Collins and E. Jowett, Messrs S. H. Barraclough, J. C. Warrington, K. Oshima, K. Ziegler, D. Scott and H. Evars.
Per *Derfflinger*, from Yokohama, &c., for Hongkong: Mr and Mrs Whismarsh, Mr and Mrs Arnold, Mr and Mrs Connell, Mrs H. Bremer, Mrs Leeffe and children, Mrs H. Brodersen, Mrs J. O. Leiser, Mrs Vial, Mrs K. Massmusso, Miss N. Yamagimto, Miss I. Kurokawa, Capt. Bremer, Rev. J. G. Baker, Rev. R. Hutchinson, Mr J. Liang and family, Mr Leeffe and servant, Mr Kees and family, Mr Muller and family, Messrs E. D. H. Lang, P. Kli-manek, W. H. Clarke, J. Rafen, W. Parson, McCulloch, J. C. Douglas, J. Hermans, Humphry, A. Ranchholz, G. Whise, E. N. Maghew, H. G. Beahkoy, H. Haunada, J. Falomson and Wolffgand.

Per *Drufar*, from Bangkok, Mr E. A. Smith.
Per *Haiyang*, from Coast Ports, Capt. Holdt, Professor Kohbe, Messrs L. J. Thomas, L. C. Harrison, Camphin and Brown.

Per *Wakasa Maru*, from Singapore, Misses Manning and F. Sampson, Messrs E. Tart, R. Ritchie, Young and T. L. Laughlin.

Per *Sydney*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mrs and Miss De Champinons, Mrs Postella; from Colombo, Lord Kitchener and Captain Fitzgerald; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs Dabby and infant, Messrs Ofuger and Harzes; from Saigon, Mrs Mina Green, Mrs Jemandez, Messrs Geffray and boy, Mullingthan, Reney, White and Pria.

Per *Himalaya*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr and Mrs L. McHardy, child and 2 infants, Mrs Jack, Mrs E. A. Hewett, Misses Innes and nurse, Miss N. E. Butler, Messrs J. Mackintosh and C. Wedgewood; from Marseilles, Messrs J. B. Neilson and J. McLelland; from Singapore, Dr. and Mrs Rossay, Messrs R. F. F. Cooke, F. Matson, J. J. de Paiva and L. Antonio; for Shanghai, from London, Miss Binney, Rev. F. Weston, Messrs E. Wilson, E. Mollows and V. H. Webber; from Marseilles, Mr H. S. Sweeting; from Bombay, Messrs S. Yoshida and Tsinzama; from Singapore, Mrs Hamilton, Messrs A. Fernandes, L. Revilla and P. Cereyal; for Kobe, from London, Mrs Valentini; for Yokohama, from London, Messrs Gilson, and N. C. Rowe; from Marseilles, Messrs A. E. Fearley, A. E. Marshall, W. H. and E. J. Byron.

DEPARTED.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mr and Mrs A. Mehlhose, Mr and Mrs Connell, Messrs H. Woolfenden, Gedro Botelho, W. S. Bailey and Tuen Larrazabal.

Per *Tango Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Mr and Mrs T. W. Withington, Mr and Mrs F. Stahl and child, Misses G. Dreisback and L. M. de Souza, Capt. Braughton, Messrs Barraclough, W. Glendenning and A. de Souza.

Per *Empress of India*, for Shanghai, &c., Capt. and Mrs J. Fielder, Mrs Rymal, Miss M. Yen, Dr. E. B. Merchant, Messrs C. G. H. Beavis, A. B. Rouse, F. B. Deacon, F. v. Kauffmann, Jose T. Figueras, A. B. Monk, H. W. Kent, A. S. Singer and R. H. Purcell.

Per *Yawata Maru*, for Japan, Mr and Mrs Hordern, Mr and Mrs Loustead, Mr and Mrs Takeshita, Capt. and Mrs R. G. Clarke, Mrs Frank Clark, Mrs McCauley, Mrs Ochiye, Misses Toohey, Combes, Clarke, Hughes, Ivy Clarke, Grey Smith, McCauley and Wareau, Sir Henry Berkeley, Messrs A. G. Baxter, S. Akiyama, Susman, H. B. Heges and H. Evars.
Per *Kumano Maru*, for Australia, &c., Mr and Mrs T. A. Maunce, Mr and Mrs Wm. Denshaw, Mrs H. Rodman, Mrs Romana de la Vina and servant, Mrs C. A. C. Cox, Mrs Quinan, Mrs Wittkousky and child, Mrs L. Anami, Misses Carmen de la Vina and C. Hori, Capt. F. Horton, Messrs L. McLelland, A. L. Carnegie, J. Bullen, R. E. Humphreys, R. Romandos, T. Isokane, Y. Mitsuse, J. Ohga, Akiyama, Yodogawa and Shitama.

Per *Derfflinger*, for Bremen, His Excellency and Lady Jose Augusto Alves Rocadas, Mr and Mrs Wm. Adler, Mr and Mrs Feulletan de Briym, Mr and Mrs Berkemeier, Mr and Mrs W. L. Blackett, Mr and Mrs Carl T. Brush, Mr and Mrs Giffard, Mr and Mrs Helm, Mr and Mrs Hoffenden and child, Mr and Mrs Kerr and children, Mrs Arthur Lea, Mr and Mrs F. S. Madan, Mr and Mrs Selce, Capt. and Mrs M. P. F. Paynter, Mrs Bliton, Mrs Raoul Duval, S. Schmidt, Mrs Surmond, Miss v. Barfus, Miss Mary Kotzing, Miss Gluendoline Mocker, Miss Sarah Rocadas, Lieut.-Colonel W. O'Leary, Lieut. G. Dias, Major G. P. Howells, Captain J. M. Pacheco de Souza, Messrs Geo. L. Allen, Roscam Abbing, E. Blaam, Oberstlt v Barfus, B. A. Billimoria, F. S. Clarke, M. David, Paul Gugelmann, E. Geier, L. Heintz, F. F. Jebbs, Fr. Kummer, Hauptm. von Kayser, J. Koomanns, Kibbe, Richard Leonhardt, G. Lammers, J. Möller, Playfair, H. Pearson, P. M. Paynter, Gustavo Rocakas, P. S. Sabert, F. J. Slavin, Stelzhammer, Voigt and family, Pater Vormann, D. Diang Yew and M. de Young.

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